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BIRTHS.

At the Hongkong Hotel, on the 30th December, the wife of Mr. J. W. BOLLES, of a daughter.
On the 31st December, at 4, Des Voeux Villas, Peak, the wife of HERBERT W. BELL, of a daughter.
At 7, Knit-ford Terrace, on the 1st inst., the wife of N. G. MAJER, of a daughter (stillborn).

MARRIAGES.

On Christmas Day, 1897, at the Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., ERNEST FRANCIS GEDYE, M.A., of Wuchang, to SADIE, eldest daughter of the Rev. John S. SIMON, Bristol, England.

On the 25th December, at the Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., the Rev. GEORGE L. PULLAN, of Hankow, to EMILIE, only daughter of C. M. WHITE, Harrogate, England.

On the 27th December, 1897, at St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, by the Rev. R. J. Cobbold, M.A., ARDON HENRY HYLAND, Imperial Maritime Customs, Canton, to LOUISA, fifth daughter of George REEVES, Esq., Harrietsham, Maidston, Kent, England.

DEATHS.

At Chong'ing, Shantung, on the 3rd December, NORA DOROTHY, daughter of the Rev. Frank and Mrs. HARMON, English Baptist Mission.
On the 23rd December, at the Osaka Hospital, the wife of Captain P. C. FULLERT.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 3rd December arrived, per M. M. steamer *Yarra*, on the 4th January (32 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The movements of the British fleet in China waters are still shrouded in mystery.

The West Yorks Regiment, which has been relieved by the Royal Lancaster Regiment, left Hongkong on the 1st January.

H.M. the King of Siam arrived at Bangkok, on his return from his European tour, on the 16th December.

The reported French occupation of Hainan is contradicted.

Sir Nicholas Hannen leaves Shanghai for Bangkok on the 14th January.

The Japanese Diet was dissolved on the 25th December owing to the hostility of the House of Representatives to the Government.

The case of the Bombay fireman landed at Penang from the *Thames* was declared by the medical officers to be one of "aborted plague."

The *Nagasaki Press* says that the German steamers *Swatow*, *Quarta*, and *Loyal* have been chartered by the German authorities for one year to convey coals and stores to Kiaochow Bay.

Admiral Seymour, Admiral Buller's successor, is coming out by the *China*, the P. & O. Australian liner, connecting at Colombo with the mail steamer to China. The *China* left London on the 31st December.

General Duboffskoi, Governor-General of the Amur provinces, goes home by this week's French mail. General Kuropatkin, the N. C. *Daily News* says, will act as Governor-General during his absence, with General Grodelkoff as his deputy.

A telegram was received on the 24th Dec. by the Japanese Government, stating that the Revised Treaty between Japan and the French Republic had been approved by the French Senate. Ratifications will be exchanged in Tokyo.

Four godowns on the premises of the Yokohama railway station were destroyed by fire on the night of the 22nd December. The goods burnt and damaged consist of raw silk, cotton yarn, sugar, and kerosine, and the loss is said to be heavy.

A Japanese vernacular paper states that the authorities of the Governor-General's office in Formosa are considering the desirability of creating a monopoly of the camphor business, in the same way as a Government monopoly of leaf tobacco had been created, with a view to increasing the revenue of Formosa.

The Black Flag General Liu Yung-fu arrived at Canton on the 1st January from Yamchow, near Pakhoi, by the gunboat *On Lan*. Immediately on landing he went to call upon the Viceroy, the Governor, and the Tartar General. His appointment is that of Commander-in-Chief of the defences of Canton. He is said to be held in very high respect by all the officers.

Commenting upon the opinion that Japan will probably demand the retention of Wei-lai-wei, the *Japan Times* says:—Without committing ourselves to any definite opinion on this matter, we may state that Japan will certainly not merely look on while European Powers are acting in her vicinity in a most extraordinary manner. Japan is entitled, like any one else to look after her own interests.

Haiphong papers received on 30th Dec. report all quiet at that town and that the alarm occasioned by the attack of the 16th December had subsided. On the 18th eleven of the pirates were decapitated. One of them, a leader, had committed suicide the previous night in order to escape the execution, but his body was carried to the execution ground and decapitated with the others. The execution was witnessed by a large crowd, including a number of ladies.

The New Year's honours list includes a knighthood for Mr. Justice Ackroyd, who retired from the Puisne Judgeship of Hongkong a few years ago.

The Philippine rebellion is at last ended, the leaders having been bought off. They have received an annuity from the Spanish Government on condition that they do not reside in a Spanish colony, and they arrived at Hongkong a few days ago. Their followers are to receive a free pardon.

The officers and crew of the Norwegian steamer *Tancred*, which lies beached at the Luchu Islands, arrived at Kobe on the 23rd December by the *Owari-maru*, which also brought from the wreck about 5,000 bags of sugar, anchors, chains, cables, &c. We learn that it was not a case of accidental stranding. It was discovered that a plate had given way almost immediately under the engine room, and to save the ship from sinking, the captain resolved to beach her.—*Kobe Chronicle*.

The following Government notification was issued at Singapore in reference to the death of Sir William Maxwell:—It is with much grief and regret that His Excellency the Governor announces the receipt of a telegram from the Secretary of State confirming the sad intelligence of the death of Sir W. E. Maxwell, Governor of the Gold Coast, which occurred at sea near Grand Canary on the 14th December. The Governor is sure that the colony and Protected Native States, in which the late Sir W. Maxwell served so long and well, will join His Excellency in conveying to the widow and children the expression of his deep sympathy and profound regret.

Matters now look serious, says the *Japan Gazette* of 21st December, concerning the safety of the *Pelican* from America. She is now nearly seventy days out, and nothing has been seen or heard of her. Captain Wright of the N. P. S. S. *Mogul* was ordered to keep a sharp look out, but nothing was seen of the overdue vessel. Fears are also entertained for the safety of the British steamer *Lady Furness*, chartered by the Mitsui Busan Kaisha, which left Kuchinotsu for Singapore on the 8th November. She is now over five weeks out and nothing has been seen or heard of her. It will be remembered, however, that the *Strathnevis* was seventy-five days out, having met with an accident to her propeller.

The *Kobe Chronicle* of the 22nd December says:—The most remarkable news published by the Japanese papers this morning is the almost incredible statement that the French Government has officially communicated to the Japanese Government its desire to "borrow" (*kari ireru*) the Pescadores with the object of forming an anchorage there for the French squadron. The *Chu-o Shimbun* is the journal responsible for the publication of the rumour, for we suppose it can hardly be regarded as anything else, though it is somewhat remarkable that it was the *Chu-o Shimbun* which first stated that news had reached the Government which raised a question more important than any arising since the retrocession of Liao-tung. Before the rumour can be credited, however, we must believe that Japan is to be provoked by the Triple Alliance to a conflict in which Great Britain might be forced to take part, and this appears altogether against the policy of the Three Powers.

THE RECORD OF THE YEAR.

The year 1897 will be memorable in the annals of the British Empire as that of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, an occasion that called forth a demonstration of patriotism, loyalty, and affection for the Sovereign such as the world had never witnessed before. From North to South and East to West in both hemispheres Her Majesty's subjects united to do Her honour, and amongst the scattered communities of the Orient the enthusiasm reached as high a pitch as in the metropolis itself. Not the least pleasing feature of the occasion was the heartiness with which other nationalities joined in the celebrations, a feature which was conspicuously noticeable in Hongkong and was reflected in the handsome donations by foreign firms and individuals to the Jubilee Fund. Like most other places Hongkong decided to have one or more permanent memorials of the interesting and epoch marking occasion, and after much discussion it was decided to devote a moiety of the Fund to the making of a road round the island and the other half to the establishment of a hospital for women and children and a nursing institute. These works will perpetuate in this colony the memory of the most world-wide and most magnificent celebration hitherto recorded in history.

In the politics of the Far East the year will also be memorable for the initiation of a movement that bids fair to end in the partitioning of China. Russia has materially strengthened her influence in Korea and is establishing a virtual protectorate over Manchuria, her fleet being now installed at Port Arthur. Germany, as reparation for the murder of two German priests, has seized Kiaochau and has included amongst her other demands one for the development of the resources of Shantung under German direction. France has ambitions for territorial aggrandisement in the South and a rumour, not yet verified, has been in circulation for the last day or two to the effect that the French flag has been hoisted on the island of Hainan, the coasts of which have of late been carefully surveyed by French ships. As these lines are being penned the British fleet is engaged on a mission the exact nature of which is as yet veiled in secrecy but which is understood to include the securing of concessions for Great Britain equivalent to the advantages gained by other Powers. A progressive, strong, and independent China would have best served England's policy, but as the native administration is hopelessly corrupt, the country helpless, and its territory open to annexation by any Power that chooses to put forth its hand—which several Powers are now doing—Great Britain must perforce take the necessary steps for the protection of her vast commercial interests in China, which outweigh those of all the other Powers put together. Fortunately the indications point to a peaceable adjustment of their claims by the various Powers concerned, the outbreak of hostilities between any European nations with respect to the China question being extremely improbable.

Although the Chinese Government remains naturally exclusive and unprogressive it has not been able entirely to resist the force of events making for the development of the country's resources and the extension and improvement of its means of communication. The West River has at last been opened as far as Wuchow, and the results of the first six months' working promise well for the establishment of a large and profit-

able trade, which will greatly contribute to Hongkong's prosperity. Peking has during the past twelve months been a hunting ground, if not a very happy one, for concession hunters, and reports of large schemes having been satisfactorily settled have from time to time been circulated, only to be again contradicted, and the project of a railway from Peking to Hankow still remains in a position of uncertainty. Still, there has been some advance. The line from Tientsin to Peking has been opened during the year, and the short line from Shanghai to Woosung is in progress of construction. The possibility of developing foreign trade with China has received a large measure of attention during the year, the country having been visited by commercial missions of investigation from England, France, and Germany. Great Britain has also added to the functions of the Consul-General at Shanghai those of a commercial attaché, an appointment which has for some time past been urged. The form in which the appointment has been made, however, fails to give satisfaction, as it is felt that if we have a commercial attaché at all he ought to be able to devote his whole time to the duties of that office, travelling about from port to port as occasion requires, instead of being tied down to a particular consulate.

While the year cannot be described as altogether a calamitous one for trade in China it has nevertheless witnessed various drawbacks of a serious character. The Indian famine and the shortness of crops in other countries caused a material increase in the cost of food stuffs and diminished the purchasing power of the people. At the same time the withdrawal of the Japanese yen from circulation, owing to Japan's adoption of the gold standard, caused a serious scarcity of the circulating medium, which materially hampered commercial transactions, and for the past few months trade in imports has been almost at a standstill and stocks have accumulated in the godowns to an inconvenient extent, especially Indian yarn, the importers of which have felt the position so keenly that they recently recommended the adoption of short time by the Bombay mills, a recommendation which, however, was not adopted. Heavy fluctuations of exchange and uncertainty as to the future of silver have also had a demoralising effect. Happily the scarcity of money is now receiving some relief, goods are being cleared more readily than for some time past, and the prospects for the New Year are not unfavourable.

The colony of Hongkong, notwithstanding the adverse trading conditions above alluded to, has continued to make substantial progress during the year. The opening of the West River has increased the colony's trade in that direction, and the prospects of its further development are bright. The various local industries have been profitably employed, and these will shortly receive an important addition in the mills of the Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving, and Dyeing Co., Limited. There has been an active demand for land, both for industrial and residential purposes, and the re-valuation of rateable tenements, which will come into force from the 1st July next, is expected to show a substantial increase in the value of property. The extension of the Naval Yard is expected to be commenced during the year now opening, and that large and important work, which will afford employment to a large number of labourers, and bring into circulation a large sum of money, will contribute to our local prosperity. It is prob-

able, also, that during the year the rectification of the colony's boundaries may be announced, which, while its principal importance rests on political grounds, will also afford room for industrial expansion and add to the population. The census taken in January last gave a population for the whole colony of 236,382, exclusive of the military and naval establishments, showing an increase of nearly 18,000 on the census taken in 1891. This increase would no doubt have been much larger had it not been for the visitations of the plague in 1894 and 1896, and the percentage of increase during the year just expired must, we should think, have been considerably larger than the average of the previous five years. During 1897 the colony has happily been almost entirely free from plague, only a few isolated cases numbering less than twenty in all having occurred. With the sanitary precautions now taken there seems little reason to fear the recrudescence of the disease in epidemic form, with its disastrous interruptions of the colony's trade and progress.

It is satisfactory to note that the attack on the freedom of the port has been frustrated and the light dues reduced from two-and-a-half cents to one cent per ton, the additional one-and-a-half cents having covered the special purpose for which the levy was made, namely, the cost of the construction of the Gap Rock light. It was proposed that, notwithstanding the understanding at the time the levy was made, the higher rate should still be maintained. Had that been done it is possible the charge might not have had any material effect in deterring shipping from entering the port, but the admission of the principle that shipping might be taxed in aid of the general revenue might have led to the imposition of additional burdens in the future and would have been a standing menace to the prosperity of the port. It is as a free port that Hongkong has prospered so greatly in the past and the maintenance of that status is the best guarantee for its future prosperity.

In local official circles the changes during the year have been few, but in the year now entered upon we shall have a change of Governors, while absence on leave will probably cause temporary changes in the office of the Colonial Secretary and other important departments. The West Yorkshire Regiment leaves us to-day, carrying with them the esteem and best wishes of the community, while to their successors, the Royal Lancaster Regiment, a hearty welcome must be accorded. While on the subject of official changes mention cannot be omitted of the painful discovery of grave irregularities in the Police Force and other branches of the Public Service. Steps are now being taken by legislation to provide for the more effectual punishment of bribery when discovered, but it is to be feared that whatever care may be taken unprincipled men will always find opportunities of adding to their income by illegal gratifications, and in a colony like this the temptations placed in the way of persons in authority are strong.

Looking forward to the year just opening, the prospect politically as well as commercially may be regarded as favourable. In Europe the political atmosphere is fairly free of war clouds. In India the famine is at an end and the frontier disturbances are being suppressed. Coming further east, the King of Siam has just returned from a European tour, the results of which it is to be hoped will be seen in an acceleration of the progress already being made in that interesting country. In Japan trade is at present suffering from the effect of the currency

changes, but this will no doubt prove evanescent and cause no material interruption of the country's industrial development, but rather, by attracting European capital, promote the establishment of new enterprises and the extension of existing ones. It is true the international relations of Japan are at present of rather a precarious character, owing to Russian encroachments in Korea, but with prudence at the helm collision with the Colossus of the North may perhaps be avoided. In China the movements of the Powers to which reference has already been made, while they may lead to the overthrow of the Government, which is already tottering from its own weakness, tend also to the opening up of the country, the increase of its foreign trade, and the well being of the people. In Hongkong a continuance of prosperity is assured, and whatever the changes that may be impending in the neighbouring empire they can hardly fail to bring with them material advantages to the trade and commerce of this colony. In the hope that all our readers may individually share in the general prosperity of the colony we cordially wish them

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

ENGLAND'S SPHERE OF INFLUENCE.

The contention put forward by the *Japan Mail*, that the provision with reference to "Chusan and its dependencies" in the Bocca Tigris Convention was intended to insure the whole coast between Canton and the mouth of the Yangtze against foreign aggression, may be accepted as correct in a general sense, but seems to us too limited in its scope. In 1846 there was not much thought of foreign aggression in China, and Great Britain secured her lien on Chusan at that time simply because it was an advantageous point from which to protect, should occasion arise, her then existing interests or any interests that might be acquired thereafter. There was nothing in the circumstances of the time to indicate that it was intended to prevent foreign aggression south of the Yangtze any more than north of that river, except that our trade interests in the South were greater than in the North. Since that time, however, Tientsin has grown into a place of importance, British interests there being of considerable magnitude and not to be lightly sacrificed. Our interests at Newchwang and Chefoo are also worth consideration. If there is to be a partitioning of China, however, or a delimitation of spheres of influence, it may be that Great Britain, while securing by agreement her existing trading privileges in the North as far as possible, may have to confine her attention as regards the territorial question to the South.

Our Yokohama contemporary says:—"The idea of England's entering into an agreement, or accepting even the bare suggestion of an understanding, with any European Power to map out mutual 'spheres of influence' or lines of partition in China is not to be entertained for an instant. Without pretending to claim any high standard of international morality for the British nation, we do allege that a plundering project of that nature would be hooted throughout the length and breadth of the land." Whether the project can be properly described as a plundering one depends on the circumstances. Empire has been forced on us in other parts of the world, often against our will, and it may be forced on us in China. As our contem-

porary says further on in his article, "events have assuredly shaped themselves so that England, if confronted with the contingency of foreign aggression in the districts lying between the mouth of the Yangtze and Hongkong, would be justified in pointing to the history of her relations with China since 1840, and in claiming that a sphere has been delimited for her by a train of incidents not to be misconstrued or minimized." But, confronted with foreign aggression, something more practical than pointing at history would be required. Are we to fight in order to maintain a corrupt and incapable Government in power, or solve the difficulty once and for all by taking the rule into our own hands? If the latter course were adopted it could not, under the circumstances be described as a "plundering project," nor would it be "hooted throughout the length and breadth of the land."

TYPHOON SIGNALS.

From the published minutes of the Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce we learn that at the last monthly meeting the question of typhoon signals was again discussed, the general opinion being in favour of the former system of meteorological signals instead of the system of storm warnings now in use, but no decision was arrived at, pending further inquiries. The Zikawei Observatory's new code of signals for the typhoon and storm warning service on the coast of China may possibly prove suggestive to the Committee. This code goes into effect at Shanghai and Chefoo on the 1st January, and it is apparently intended that it shall be adopted ultimately at all the Treaty Ports. The requirements of Hongkong in the matter of storm warnings are identical with those of the Treaty Ports and it would probably be a convenience to shipping if uniformity in the system of signalling could be secured. Under the system which formerly obtained in Hongkong the signals indicated a typhoon to the north, south, east, or west respectively, and a change in the colour indicated whether the centre was more or less than three hundred miles distant. In the early part of this year the system was altered. Under the new system information as to the existence and direction of typhoons at a distance can be found only in the printed notices issued from the Observatory, the signals hoisted at the mast merely indicating the probability of a gale being experienced locally, with an additional signal when it is anticipated that the gale may reach typhoon force. The Zikawei code, on the other hand, contains about a hundred signals, indicated by flag numbers and letters, the international code being used for the letters and Marryat's code for the numbers. By this code the locality of the typhoon and the places where and directions from which gales may be expected can be readily indicated. On paper the system seems an excellent one, but it might possibly be found rather complicated in practice. It may also be doubted whether meteorological science has arrived at such a point of perfection as to enable the observer to fix with such exactness the locality of a distant typhoon, and, moreover, experts are divided in opinion as to the suitability of flags as signals in storm warnings. The fact that the code emanates from Zikawei will, however, be taken as a strong *prima facie* recommendation in its favour, and as the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce has the subject of storm warnings at present under consideration the system about to be adopted at the Treaty Ports

should receive the Committee's attention. The system at present in force in Hongkong, while it may be sufficient for the purpose of indicating local gales, is, we believe, generally regarded as giving less information than is desirable. The public would like, to know something about the movements of the typhoon before it threatens to give us a gale locally, and signals at the mast would make the information more generally known than the printed notices. Flag signals similar to those of the Zikawei code might possibly be used for this purpose, the present signals being also retained, especially for the benefit of the native boat people, for the purpose of indicating local gales.

REGISTRATION OF SERVANTS.

There are few residents who have not at some time or other experienced trouble with their Chinese servants, and from time to time the suggestion is advanced that matters might be very greatly improved by a system of compulsory registration. At one time a system of registration was in force, but it fell into disuse because people would not take the trouble to comply with the requirements, and ultimately the law was repealed. The same thing happened at Singapore, and Ceylon is passing through the same experience. A case was brought before the Police Court at Colombo the other day in which a resident was charged with keeping an unregistered servant. The Magistrate who tried the case made the voluntary admission that he had himself at least three unregistered servants and said he believed everybody in court had unregistered servants. He therefore imposed merely a nominal penalty. The failure of the European communities to fall in with the registration system is not surprising, seeing how little protection it has afforded where it has been tried. It is possible that with the spread of socialistic ideas the State may in course of time undertake the control of our domestic affairs for us, including the relations between master and servant, but for the present such matters will be better left to private agreement. It is a simple thing to inscribe a man's name in a book, but if no advantage follows the inscription it is not singular that the public should neglect to comply with the formality, small as the trouble may be. To make the system effective power would have to be given to the Registrar to settle disputes between master and servant and to inflict punishment in cases of misconduct; and existing grievances, annoying as they may be, are hardly sufficient to justify the establishment of a special court to deal with them. We already have sufficient state-created crime without increasing the amount by the inclusion of all the petty derelictions of household servants. Punishment of dishonesty and disobedience is already provided for under the existing law, but it is seldom that employers will take the trouble to prosecute a servant for the latter offence, and even in cases of dishonesty there is considerable laxness in invoking the aid of the police unless the value of the stolen property is considerable. In such cases people for the most part content themselves with changing their servants and grumbling at the Government for not making things easier and more pleasant for the long-suffering employer. A little consideration, however, will show the absurdity of supposing that simple registration would make dishonest servants honest or impertinent and disobedient servants polite and docile.

RUMOURED SEIZURE OF HAINAN BY THE FRENCH.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS,"]
SINGAPORE, 29th December.

It is rumoured here to-day that the French have seized Hainan.

Nothing has been heard in Hongkong which would in any way confirm the reported occupation of Hainan by the French. On the contrary, a private telegram which was received by a well known firm on 30th Dec. from Tonkin flatly contradicts the rumour, and, further, the French officials in the colony altogether discredit the idea of occupation, although it is generally admitted that the French fleet have lately been exploring the coast of Hainan.

Another telegram has since been received from Hoihow stating that there is no truth whatever in the rumour that the French have occupied Hainan.

SUPREME COURT.

29th December.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE.)

GUBBAY AND OTHERS v. BELILIOS.

The hearing was resumed of the equity suit in which the plaintiffs, D. A. Gubbay, A. J. Raymond, and A. J. David petitioned the Court, on behalf of themselves and of all others of the Jewish community in Hongkong, except the defendant, for a declaration that the defendant purchased a certain lot of land in this colony known as Inland Lot No. 1,381, as a trustee for and on behalf of the plaintiffs and of all the other members of the Jewish community in Hongkong, and that he now held the property in trust for the Jewish community subject to the payment to him of whatever monies he expended in the purchase.

Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. O. D. Thomson, of Messrs. Deacon and Hastings), appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. H. E. Pollock (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) for the defendant.

Mr. Pollock addressed the Court on behalf of the defence. He said the first point he had to make was a technical one. The suit purported to be brought by Messrs. D. A. Gubbay, A. J. Raymond, and A. J. David for and on behalf of themselves and of all other members of the Jewish community in Hongkong except the defendant. The action was not brought in any form authorized by the law of this colony.

Mr. Francis, interrupting, submitted that it was too late to take that point, which ought to have been taken at the earliest possible moment. It was an objection for want of parties.

His Lordship said he preferred to hear what Mr. Pollock had to say.

Mr. Pollock said that until the plaintiffs had produced their evidence it was impossible to say what authority they had to sue in that way. The only evidence they attempted to bring forward as justifying their form of action was the document of the 10th June, 1897, which purported to authorize the three plaintiffs to sue in their own names for and on behalf of the Jewish community. That document was signed by only thirty-two members of the Jewish community. He would point out, in passing, that the document of the 16th May, 1896, appointing certain persons as trustees, was signed by forty members of the community, and it was stated in the petition that the community consisted of 143 persons, including boys and girls; there were 77 men and women, so that the signatories to the document of the 10th June did not number half the adult members of the community. Counsel also submitted that that document was practically waste paper so far as this action was concerned, because the writ was issued on the 25th May, 1897, or fifteen days before the document was signed. The action was therefore brought without authority. In support of this contention counsel quoted the case of Davis v. Reilly, reported in the "Weekly Notes" of 2nd Novem-

ber, 1897, in which the Divisional Court, Justices Wright and Kennedy, ruled that it was necessary to show what was the actual state of affairs at the date of the commencement of the action—the date of the issue of the writ. Counsel had a further contention, that the law of this colony did not authorize the three plaintiffs to sue for and on behalf of themselves and others. There was no such provision in the Code, which, he was afraid, was defective in many respects. The suit was also brought in a wrong form in asking for a declaration of trust, and therefore the suit must fail. That prayer was founded simply and solely on the allegation that Mr. Belilios bought the lot as a trustee for the Jewish community, an allegation which was not in any way supported by evidence. In fact Mr. David and Mr. D. R. Sassoon, two of the so called trustees, were on the very date of the sale against the site in Kennedy Road and so continued until October, 1896. In regard to the defendant's intentions counsel submitted that he made no more than an offer to sell. The letter which Mr. Danby wrote to the Director of Public Works stating that he was requested by a good client of his (Mr. Belilios) to apply for the ground to be put up for sale showed that Mr. Belilios contemplated utilizing Inland Lot 1,381 for himself, although there was no doubt, as appeared from the letter written by Mr. Moses to Mr. Silas on the following day, that he was willing to give a site for the synagogue. All along Mr. Belilios intended to utilize the land for himself if a portion of it was not taken for the purposes of a synagogue. Counsel contended that the defendant contemplated utilizing lot 1,381, in conjunction with the upper lots, although he still left open his offer of the site for the synagogue. It was a matter of common sense that there had been no declaration of trust, because if the Jewish community had continued to be averse to the lot, as the leading members were up to the end of 1896, what would have been the position? Would Mr. Belilios have been under any obligation, either legal or equitable, to transfer lot 1,381? Counsel submitted he would not have been under any obligation, and therefore how could it be said that Mr. Belilios was trustee? He had not parted with any interest in the property, but had simply made a conditional offer. Counsel then quoted a number of cases in support of his contention that there could have been no declaration of trust. Counsel then submitted that it was for his friend to reply to the arguments in regard to the two points raised, as if his Lordship agreed that the contentions were correct there would be an end to the whole case and defendant would be entitled to judgment.

In reply to his Lordship Mr. Francis said such a method of procedure was unprecedented. It was open to his learned friend to put forward those points at an earlier stage of the proceedings.

After some further discussion His Lordship said it would be more convenient to adjourn the case and he would consider the petition being framed as it was, whether the Court could on the facts before it decree a specific performance, assuming that the facts did not support a declaration of trust.

The Court then adjourned.

30th December.

His Lordship said, in reference to the point raised on the previous day, that he felt clear on looking at the text books that in the present form of the petition the Court could not make a decree for specific performance, assuming for the moment that the Court could not on the facts grant a decree declaring the defendant a trustee of the property. Therefore he thought it would be necessary, so as to bring the petition before the Court, to amend the petition by including a prayer for specific performance.

Mr. Pollock contended that as the action was framed for a declaration of trust it was not open for his friend to argue that he was entitled to a decree for specific performance.

Mr. Francis said he would formally ask his Lordship—although he was prepared to submit it was not necessary, but it was better to be sure than sorry—for leave to amend the petition by adding a prayer for specific performance.

Mr. Pollock objected to any amendment being made. The action was framed as an action for declaration of trust and defendant had come to the Court on the understanding that plaintiffs' counsel rested plaintiffs' case entirely upon the action for a declaration of trust.

His Lordship said he thought the best course would be to let the case proceed as it stood now, and supposing the Court held that the facts supported a declaration of trust the plaintiffs would succeed. If the Court held that the facts did not support a decree for a declaration of trust he would allow Mr. Francis to apply to amend the petition by raising the question of specific performance.

Mr. Pollock then continued his argument. Assuming that his friend was right in the form of action, the defendant's contention was that the plaintiffs' case must nevertheless fail because plaintiffs' case was that a declaration of trust was created as regards Inland Lot 1,381 and that it was understood that the whole of that lot should be used as the site for the synagogue. Defendant's case, on the contrary, was that so much land only was in contemplation of the parties as was reasonably necessary for the purposes of the synagogue and the rabbi's residence. His Lordship would find that that was the understanding of both parties. It was a matter of common sense that Mr. Belilios never intended to transfer to the Jewish community more land for the synagogue and the rabbi's residence and that he could not have expected or supposed, especially in view of the difficulty as to funds and the appeal made to Mr. Jacob Sassoon as late as the 20th May, 1896, for a further contribution—he could never have supposed for a single moment that the community would take over more ground than was reasonably required for the purposes of the synagogue and the rabbi's residence. Counsel contended that the whole evidence showed that, up to a certain point, there was no variance between the parties on the question of the transference of a portion of the lot for a synagogue. If the plaintiffs had been at variance with the defendant they would certainly have given clear and precise instructions to Messrs. Leigh and Orange to prevent any misunderstanding on the part of Mr. Belilios. The letter to Mr. Belilios of the 8th March, stating that the trustees had decided to take over the whole lot clearly showed that previous to that date they had not decided to take over the whole lot. If the plaintiffs had framed their action asking for so much of the lot as was reasonably required for the purposes of a synagogue this action would never have been fought. The whole point was that apart from what the plaintiffs did, apart from the instructions they gave to Messrs. Leigh and Orange on the 11th March, and apart from the arrangement come to in Mr. Danby's office, the plaintiffs since the 12th March took up the position that they were entitled to nothing less than the whole lot. If at the meeting in Mr. Danby's office the question of the retaining wall had not arisen the parties would have actually come to a definite agreement that the piece of ground marked off on the plan should go to the community and that Mr. Belilios should retain the remaining portion of the lot. Counsel submitted that the Court must weigh the circumstances and the correspondence and all that passed between the parties as a whole to see what was the actual intention of the parties.

Mr. Francis then addressed his Lordship and reviewed the whole of the facts and circumstances in the order in which they occurred. Counsel pointed out that when lot 1,381 was known as lots 1,216 and 1,217 Mr. Danby recommended the purchase of both lots, which he called site A, for the purposes of a synagogue, and suggested that although the site was too large the portion not wanted could be utilized as space for the erection of villas. He strongly recommended then the advisability of so planning their work as to leave room for alterations and improvements. In 1893, when Mr. Lemm was consulted, he spoke of the site being numbered inland lots 1,216 and 1,217 when making his report, and in a letter to the Director of Public Works, dated 22nd October, 1893, applying on behalf of the Hebrew community for the two lots to be put up for auction for the purposes

of a synagogue, Mr. Belilios never acted in any other capacity than trustee for the Jewish community. He applied to the Government for the site on behalf of the Jewish community and he applied for the identical land embraced in the original lots 1,216 and 1,217. Messrs. Leigh and Orange's report and Mr. Danby's letter showed clearly that the site was the whole of the land and not part of it. If Mr. Belilios was not acting on behalf of the Jewish community why did he communicate with Mr. Silas as to what he was doing or as to what was done? Counsel referred to the letter in which Mr. Belilios said that "if the community would like to take it over he will be glad to hand it over upon being reimbursed the cost and interest, otherwise he will keep it himself." Was that a letter a man would write when offering a piece of land for sale? Was that the way anyone would express himself who was buying a piece of land for himself and intended to offer a portion to a friend? If he had purchased the ground for himself he would have written, "If within a reasonable time you would like to buy a portion of it for the Jewish community I will let you have it at the purchasing price." Counsel contended that his Lordship must declare Mr. Belilios a trustee for the Jewish community. The report which the three unofficial trustees, one of whom was Mr. Belilios, forwarded to Mr. Jacob Sassoon in 1893 showed emphatically that the ground which it was intended to purchase for the site was the whole of the particular lot in question. If Mr. Belilios had at that time applied for the ground for himself and with the intention of selling it to the Jewish community for the purposes of a synagogue—if he had then altered his position with respect to the community—it was his business clearly to have informed them. But he had said emphatically that he did not inform a single member of the community or of the Committee of his intentions with regard to the land or anything connected with it, and the only way in which he suggests they could have known anything about his intentions was through a communication to Mr. Bell-Irving, the Chairman of the Land Investment Company, and which he suggests was seen by Mr. Ezekiel, who communicated the contents to the other members of the Jewish community. Mr. Belilios assumed that Mr. Ezekiel was such a leaking vessel that he must have communicated what he saw in the letter—which really referred to a quarrel with Mr. Danby—to the Jewish community.

At this point the Court adjourned.

31st December.

Mr. Francis, continuing his argument, said he had endeavoured to demonstrate from the documents and the evidence that when Mr. Belilios, through Mr. Danby, applied for the Crown land between the nullah and the tramway to be put up for public sale he was acting as the agent for and representative of the Jewish community and of the committee of which he was a member and which was appointed for the purpose of making arrangements for the erection of a synagogue. Mr. Danby had said that when applying for the land he meant the whole of the land between Macdonnell Road and Kennedy Road, but the particular lots put up were the old lots 1,216 and 1,217 with one or two additions. Counsel for the defendant had drawn attention to the fact that the special conditions provided for the erection of only houses known as the European class.

His Lordship remarked that he did not place much importance on that.

Mr. Francis said it was not important, but he would like to say that there were only two classes of dwellings in the colony—European and Chinese. A synagogue was not a Chinese pagoda, but was distinctly within the limit of buildings described as of the European class. Counsel referred to the letter in which Mr. Belilios notified the date of the sale of the ground and hoped that the other trustees would be present in order that there might be no outside competition, as other people had their eyes on the lot. There could be no doubt that that land was the whole of the particular land in question and that it was the site for the synagogue. If Mr. Belilios intended to erect private villas on that site, if he had such ideas

in his mind, he had betrayed the confidence of the trustees in inviting them to attend in order to prevent outside competition and to enable him to get the property at a cheaper rate than he would otherwise have got it. If that was the case he so acted in order to lead the public who attended the sale to believe that the purchase was made for the synagogue and to let them see that Mr. Raymond, Mr. Ezekiel, Mr. Sassoon, and Mr. Belilios himself were on the ground, and that the lot was wanted for the purposes of a synagogue. Counsel refused to believe Mr. Belilios's statement in the box that he purchased the ground for himself. It would be a dishonour and a discredit to himself should it turn out to be true. In inviting the trustees to be present in order to prevent outside competition Mr. Belilios was doing a discreditable action if he was not at that time deliberately intending to purchase that ground for the Jewish community, if he was not there as a representative of the Jewish community. Counsel refused to take Mr. Belilios's word, as it would be an injury to his character and reputation. Mr. Belilios had made a mistake. It was true the other trustees did not attend the sale, but their non-attendance was the result of enquiries made. By his conduct, by his letter, by his position on the Committee, Mr. Belilios put the trustees off their guard and prevented them from taking any means for securing the land. His conduct in connection with the immediate sale and purchase of the land and the letter were alone sufficient to justify the Court in declaring him a constructive trustee for the Jewish community. Counsel further submitted that up to the end of July, after the actual purchase by Mr. Belilios of Inland Lot 1,381, there was not a trace in the correspondence or the evidence of anything whatever in the nature of an agreement or contract either of sale or of any other description whatever between Mr. Belilios and his co-trustees. They left Mr. Belilios the sole active agent in the purchase of the lot, and knowing that and believing that he was going to represent them at the sale and purchase of the lot for them, they refrained from attending the sale or bidding for the lot or instructing any other person to bid. No possible relationship could have existed either in law or in equity between Mr. Belilios and the Jewish community up to the 31st July, except that of agent, representative, and trustee. There was absolutely no suggestion of a contract. There was nothing whatever that could afford the faintest foundation for an application to the Court to enforce a contract by the remedy of specific performance or in respect of which damages could be claimed. What was a trust? It was defined by Lewin. It was "a confidence—not necessarily a confidence expressly reposed by one party in another, for it may be raised by implication—it is a confidence as distinguished from *jus in re* or *jus ad rem*, for it is neither a legal property nor a legal right." There was no contract of any description between Mr. Belilios and the Jewish community with reference to the land which could be enforced by any action. He had simply told them that he, being one of the trustees, was going to buy the land for a synagogue. It was emphatically a confidence reposed in Mr. Belilios by the Jewish community, and reposing that confidence in him they permitted him, unopposed, to purchase the land, believing that he was purchasing it for them and reposing the utmost trust and confidence in him. It was as clearly a trust as it was possible for any transaction of the sort to be, and it complied with the definition of what a trust was. Counsel submitted that since the 8th March, the date of the letter in which Mr. Belilios offered only a portion of the site for the synagogue, Mr. Belilios had attempted to squeeze all he could out of the Jewish community, while the Jewish community had done all they could to satisfy Mr. Belilios's desires in the interests of peace. In conclusion, counsel quoted several cases and then thanked his Lordship for the very patient attention he had paid to both counsel during the progress of the case. His Lordship said the case was an extremely difficult one and he would give a written judgment. He thanked counsel on both sides for their clear and able arguments in the case. Mr. Francis asked his Lordship to consider his judgment before plunging into the numerous cases that were already awaiting decision, a

both parties were very anxious to know what was to be done with the property.

His Lordship intimated that he would give judgment in the course of a few days.

The court then adjourned.

LOCAL AND DISTRICT EVENTS, 1897.

JANUARY.

- 1st—Taikoo athletic sports.—Dreadful fatality at Shanghai; Mrs. Brumfield accidentally burnt to death.—Dr. J. W. Carrington, Chief Justice of Hongkong, received the honour of knighthood.
- 2nd—Captain Chapman, on behalf of Hongkong Volunteer Corps, congratulated Major Sir John Carrington (Commandant) on the honour of knighthood conferred upon him.
- 4th—Supreme Court officials congratulated Sir John Carrington (Chief Justice).
- 5th—Trial of Mrs. Carew for murdering her husband commenced at Yokohama.
- 6th—Amoy Races.
- 7th—Amoy Races.—Inhabitants of Kowloon resolved to petition the Government to establish a school in that district.
- 8th—Amoy Races.—Armed robbery at 31, Winglok Street; no arrests.
- 9th—Mrs. F. H. May gave her annual New Year entertainment to children at Central Police Station.
- 10th—Mr. H. E. Pollock's yacht *Active* sunk in the harbour; raised on the 11th.
- 11th—Mr. Lowder, Mrs. Carew's counsel, charged Miss Jacob, the nurse, with the murder of Mr. Carew.—Death of the Empress-Dowager of Japan.
- 12th—Fire on the *Fausang*.—Coroner's jury found that a German sailor of the *Arcona*, who was found insensible at the Happy Valley, died from a blow inflicted by a comrade named Meilens.—The leading merchants of Canton resolved to petition the Viceroy and the Governor respecting the inconvenience resulting from the new postal law.
- 14th—Suicide of Corporal Bates, of the Royal Engineers, at Wellington Barracks.
- 16th—Local examination of the London College of Music held at the City Hall.—Smoking concert at Kowloon by Dock Detachment of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps.
- 18th—The Bar congratulated Sir John Carrington (Chief Justice) on his receiving the honour of knighthood.—Fire at 138, Jervois Street.—Severe earthquake at Foochow.
- 20th—Lecture by His Excellency the Governor, Sir William Robinson, on Charles Dickens.
- 21st—Prize distribution at Diocesan School and Orphanage.
- 22nd—St. George's ball at City Hall.—Distribution of prizes by His Excellency the Governor at Queen's College.
- 25th—Burns concert at City Hall.
- 26th—The *Echigo-Maru* impaled by the H.M.S. *Narcissus* in Chemulpo Harbour.
- 27th—Armed robbery at 115, Praya West.
- 29th—Annual meeting of seatholders in St. John's Cathedral.
- 30th—Military concert at the City Hall.—Boat accident near Foochow; 104 lives lost.

FEBRUARY.

- 1st—Organ recital by Mr. A. G. Ward at St. John's Cathedral.—Resolved by a Committee appointed by the Governor to open an Indian Famine Fund in Hongkong.—Mrs. Carew sentenced to death at Yokohama for murdering her husband.
- 2nd—64-pounder competition by Hongkong Volunteer Corps.—Fire at 213, Praya West.
- 3rd—Fire in the French Concession, Shanghai.
- 4th—The sentence on Mrs. Carew commuted to penal servitude for life.—Agreement signed at Peking by which the Chinese Government consented to open the West River to foreign trade and steamer navigation.
- 5th—Miss Jacob, who was accused of the murder of Mr. Carew, at Yokohama, was discharged, the charge being withdrawn.
- 6th—Admiral Sir Alexander Buller and Lady Buller gave an "at home" on board H.M.S. *Centurion*.
- 10th—A Russian engineer fined \$300 for trespassing in Hongham fort.—Hongkong Volunteer Corps dance at City Hall.—West Yorkshire Regimental sports at Happy Valley.

11th—Discussion on smallpox and quarantine regulations at Sanitary Board meeting.—West Yorkshire Regimental Sports.—Fire at 14, Cross Street.

13th—Suicide of Johannes Petersen, a German resident, at Kowloon.

15th—Fire at the Government Offices.—Mr. Lowder, Mrs. Carew's counsel, withdrew, in a letter, all charges he made against Miss Jacob in the murder case and also apologised to Miss Jacob.

17th—Hongkong Race Meeting.

18th—Hongkong Race Meeting.

19th—Hongkong Race Meeting.

20th—Hongkong Race Meeting: Off Day.—"Les Cloches de Corneville," presented by the Amateur Dramatic Club at City Hall.—Armed robbery at 264, Queen's Road Central; six men caught.

21st—Volunteer Church Parade Service in Union Church.

22nd—Suicide of Captain Ward, R.M.L.I., on H.M.S. *Grafton*.

23rd—Sale of race ponies.—Annual meeting and dinner at City Club.

26th—Masonic quadrille party at City Hall.

27th—Shooting match between Sergeants, West Yorkshire Regiment, and the Hongkong Volunteer Corps: Volunteers won.

MARCH.

1st—H.M.S. *Spartan* left for England.

5th—Farewell banquet given at the City Hall by the Chinese community to H.E. Wu Ting-fang, the Chinese Minister to the United States, Spain, and Peru.—Lecture by Mr. Granville Sharp at the City Hall on "Siney: how to get it and how to keep it."—Death of Captain Croal, of Shanghai.

6th—Victoria English Schools sports at Happy Valley.—Final performance of "Les Cloches de Corneville" by A.D.C. at City Hall.

7th—Fall of concrete blocks on the Praya; one life lost.—Wreck of the *Glamorganshire* on the Rosslyn reef, 30 miles from Cape St. James; passengers and crew saved.

9th—Lecture by His Excellency the Governor, Sir William Robinson, on the West India Islands.

11th—Presentation of an address by Chinese community to H.E. Wu Ting-fang at "Idlewild."

12th—Hon. Dr. Ho Kai presented with an address and presentation plate by the Chinese community of Hongkong on the occasion of his departure for Shanghai.

13th—Hongkong Volunteer Corps 7-pr. and Maxim gun competitions at Wongneichung Gap.—H.E. Wu Ting-fang and Dr. Ho Kai left by the *Guelic* to take up their positions in America and Shanghai respectively.

15th—Chui Kwai, a Christian from California, confessed to having cut his wife's throat in a Hongkong boarding house and to having packed her body in a trunk.

17th—Foochow Spring Race Meeting.—H.E. Lo Feng Lo, Chinese Minister to London, passed through the colony on his way to England.

18th—Foochow Spring Race Meeting.—Lecture by Mr. Francis, Q.C., on Captain Mahan's book, "The Influence of sea power on history."—Fire on the *Tucoma* at Kobe; damage not serious.

19th—Foochow Spring Race Meeting.—Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.'s waste silk mills at Shanghai totally destroyed by fire.—Armed robbers in Hongkong sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

22nd—Organ recital by Mr. A. G. Ward at St. John's Cathedral.

23rd—The *Centurion* beat Kowloon at the Happy Valley in the final for the football shield competition.—Collapse of a house, 35, East Street; one man killed.

24th—Chui Kwai, a man who twice confessed to having murdered his wife in a Hongkong boarding house, found not guilty by a special jury at the Criminal Sessions.

25th—Annual meeting of the Hongkong Branch of the China Association.

26th—Lecture by Mr. W. Machell, at the City Hall on "The Chinaman as a soldier."—Captain Vyryan, of the *Glamorganshire*, which was wrecked near Cape St. James on the 7th March, exonerated from blame by the Marine Court of Inquiry.

27th—Victoria Recreation Club's sports at Happy Valley.

30th—Two men attacked and robbed of \$585 at Samshuipo; no arrests.

APRIL.

5th—Strike of wheelbarrow men at Shanghai; rioting in the streets; bluejackets, volunteers, and firemen called out.

7th—Great indignation meeting at Shanghai to protest against action of Municipal Council in submitting to wheelbarrow coolies by temporarily withdrawing the tax.

8th—Annual inspection of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps by Major-General Black.

9th—Lecture by Dr. Clark to the Odd Volumes Society on "The salt of the earth."

10th—First Gymkhana Meeting.

12th—Sir Claude Macdonald, British Minister to Peking, arrived in Hongkong on his way to Canton on a tour of investigation.

14th—Lecture by Mr. J. J. Francis on "The theory of British advocacy" to Odd Volumes Society.—Lawn tennis match between H.K.C.C. and L.R.C.

16th—Hongkong Rifle Association Meeting: first day.—Dr. Fitel left Hongkong for Australia.

17th—Hongkong Rifle Association Meeting: second day.

19th—Hongkong Rifle Association Meeting: third day.

20th—Presentation of a congratulatory address to Sir Claude Macdonald by Hongkong Branch of the China Association.

21st—Fire at 99, Jervois Street; three men suffocated.—Shanghai Council resigned in consequence of censure passed by an indignation meeting of ratepayers protesting against the "climbing down" action taken in the coolie strike.—Fire on the *Belgie* in the harbour; damage confined to Chinese passengers' luggage and matting.

22nd—Hon. F. A. Cooper, Director of Public Works, sat on the Sanitary Board for the last time, and the members passed a resolution thanking him for his valuable services and wishing him every success in his new appointment at Colombo.

23rd—Lecture by Mr. W. C. Barlow to the Odd Volumes Society, on John Stuart Blackie.—Diamond Jubilee celebration.

24th—Complimentary dinner to Hon. F. A. Cooper given by the Hongkong Civil Service.

25th—Fire at 95, Winglok Street.

26th—Jubilee Permanent Memorial Committee decided to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by erecting a hospital for women and children and a training institute for nurses and commencing a road round the island.

27th—Hon. T. S. Scombe Smith complimented by the Chief Justice, Sir John Carrington and by Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., on behalf of the legal profession upon the way he had discharged his duties as Acting Puisne Judge.

28th—Presentation to Dr. Ayres, Colonial Surgeon, by the Hongkong Police Force, on his retirement from the service.

29th—Mr. A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge, returned to the colony from leave of absence.—Dr. Ayres, Colonial Surgeon, left for England on retiring from the service.

MAY.

1st—Annual carbine competition, Hongkong Volunteer Corps: first day.

3rd—Arrival of Mrs. Carew in Hongkong Gaol.

4th—Concluding meeting of the Indian Famine Fund Committee; it was announced that the total amount subscribed in Hongkong was \$50,719.

6th—Hongkong Sanitary Board passed a resolution of thanks to Dr. Ayres for his services to the colony as Colonial Surgeon.

8th—Annual carbine competition, Hongkong Volunteer Corps: concluding day.

14th—New by-laws approved by Sanitary Board.

15th—Second Gymkhana Meeting.

20th—Interesting *habeas corpus* case at Supreme Court.

21st—Arson at 231, Queen's Road Central; master arrested.

22nd—Court Martial on Sergeant Fretter, West Yorkshire Regiment, for accepting a fee as canteen manager. Prisoner was found guilty and reduced to the rank of corporal.

24th—Queen's Birthday parade of troops at Happy Valley.—Accident to French mail steamer *Sydney* off Gutzlaff; homeward mail from Hongkong delayed until 30th inst.

25th—Dr. Noble thrown out of his trap on the Shauiwan Road.

28th—Wong Lin Tang sent to gaol for fifteen years for setting fire to his shop in Winglok Street.

29th—Sale announced of Mount Austin Hotel to the Military Authorities for £30,000.

30th—Accident to Mr. Stanley Spencer, parachutist at Bay View; the balloon burst and he sustained a broken leg.

31st—Presentation of certificates won at examination held by local branch of the London College of Music.

JUNE.

2nd—Death in London of Mr. Ney Elias.

4th—West River opened.—Piracy on a junk in the harbour; \$180 worth of property stolen.—Death of Mr. David Symington, the well known football player.

5th—Prize distribution and concert at headquarters of Hongkong Volunteer Corps.

9th—P. & O. steamer *Aden* wrecked on the Socotra reef; 78 lives lost.

10th—Formation of Hongkong Volunteer Corps Recreation Club.

15th—Fire at 114, Jervois Street.

16th—Robbery of \$314 from Victoria Recreation Club.

20th—Diamond Jubilee Thanksgiving Service at St. John's Cathedral.

21st—Opening of the new ball room at the Mount Austin Hotel.—Diamond Jubilee celebrations at Macao.

22nd—Diamond Jubilee celebrations in Hongkong.

23rd—Diamond Jubilee celebrations in Hongkong.

24th—Diamond Jubilee celebration by British community of Canton.

JULY.

3rd—Death of Mr. J. M. Armstrong.

9th—Death of Mr. D. K. Sliman from drowning at Swatow.

10th—Diamond Jubilee Gymkhana at Happy Valley.

12th—Inspectors Stanton, Baker, Quincey, and Sergeant Holt suspended in connection with police scandal. They were afterwards dismissed from the Force.—News received at Penang of the piracy on the steamer *Pegu*; captain and others murdered.

15th—Serious fire at a match factory at Shanghai.

19th—Inspector Witchell committed for trial on charges of neglect of duty and receiving bribes.

21st—Sixteen Chinese detectives arrested and banished from the colony.

22nd—Master of 231, Queen's Road Central sent to gaol for five years for committing arson.

26th—Opening of the new Hongkong Club.

27th—Death of Mr. Happer, Commissioner of Customs at Newchwang.—Death of Captain Hector, s.s. *Nam Yong*, at Singapore.

28th—Collapse of buildings at 248 and 250, Queen's Road West; two men killed, eleven injured.

30th—Collision off Batavia between Dutch steamer *Speelman* and French barque *Dignesclin*; Captain and three men of steamer killed; others wounded.—Death of Li Hung-tso, assistant grand secretary and president of the Board of civil appointments at Peking.

31st—Prize distribution at Belilies Public School by Sir John Carrington, Chief Justice.

AUGUST.

3rd—Inspector Witchell found guilty at Criminal Sessions of accepting bribes from gambling house keepers; sentence, six months' imprisonment.

6th—Executive Council heard charges of accepting bribes against Mr. Osmund and Sanitary Inspector Hore. Osmund was called upon to retire on a pension and Hore was dismissed, subject to the Secretary of State's approval.

7th—Death of Mr. H. R. Stay, chief officer of the P. and O. steamer *Shanghai*, while bathing in Hongkong harbour.

10th—Steamer *Cheung Tye Ting* lost in a typhoon 350 miles south of Moji; 21 lives lost.

13th—Arrival of the new French twin screw mail steamer *Lacs*.

15th—Death at Kobe of Mr. J. Greer Walsh, of the firm of Walsh, Hall and Co.

17th—Death of Mr. Charles St. George Cleverly, formerly Surveyor-General of Hongkong.

- 18th—Fatal kerosine accident at Nagasaki. Mrs. Feldstein and nephew burnt to death.
 21st—Third Gymkhana Meeting at Happy Valley.
 22nd—Death of Mr. Barnes Dallas, merchant, of Shanghai.
 24th—Fatal accident at a house in course of erection in Queen's Road West.
 25th—New treaty between Holland and Japan signed at The Hague.
 26th—H.E. the Governor received a telegram from Secretary of State declining to interfere with the acquisition of Mount Austin Hotel by the military authorities. — Conclusion of Bennertz case at Shanghai after 33 days' hearing.
 30th—The ferry launch *Guiding Star* launched.

SEPTEMBER.

- 1st—Strike of engineers in the Straits.
 2nd—Detective-Inspector Stanton dismissed from the Police Force for not reporting a gambling house. — Naval Regatta of the British Fleet at Hakodate.
 3rd—Victoria Recreation Club Aquatic Sports: 1st day. — The celebrated P. & O. blocked-up drain discovered.
 4th—Victoria Recreation Club Aquatic Sports: concluding day. — Fire at No. 6, Tung Loy Lane.
 6th—V.R.C. Aquatic Sports: distribution of prizes by Mr. A. P. MacEwen.
 9th—Arrival of Mr. Rounsevelle Wildman, U.S. Consul at Hongkong.
 16th—Mount Austin Hotel closed to the public. — Stone pier, Murray Road, opened to traffic.
 17th—Heavy gale in Hongkong; very slight damage done. — Typhoon at Hoihow; upwards of 250 lives lost.
 18th—Jameson-Hooley Syndicate loan agreement signed at Shanghai. — Wife murder at 151, Praya West; the murderer escaped.
 19th—Steamer *Arratoon Apear* arrived in harbour after very rough passage from Singapore.
 20th—Death, in England, of Mr. Edmund Sharp, formerly Crown Solicitor of Hongkong.
 21st—Death of Mr. G. R. Lammert. — Earthquake at Kudat, Borneo.
 22nd—Opening of the New Club.
 25th—Fourth Gymkhana Meeting at the Happy Valley.
 27th—Opening of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's new premises. — Death of Lieut. Dawson, R.A., from smallpox.
 30th—Murder of a sampan woman in the harbour.

OCTOBER.

- 1st—Gold standard adopted in Japan.
 3rd—Fire on the *Mongkut* on her way to Bangkok; damage serious.
 4th—Douglas steamer *Namoa* wrecked outside north entrance to Haitan Straits; Eight Chinese lost.
 7th—Annual meeting of the Hongkong Football Club.
 9th—Hongkong Volunteer Corps commenced annual week's encampment at Stonecutters.
 16th—Violent storm on the Tonkin coast.
 17th—Arrival of P. & O. steamer *Kaisar-i-Hind* after very rough passage from Singapore; all the boats swept away. — Fire at Shanghai; fifteen houses burnt. — Murder of a man at Yaumati.
 18th—District-Inspector Howe, of the Irish Constabulary, took up his temporary duties as Acting Deputy Superintendent of the Hongkong Police Force.
 21st—Royal Hongkong Golf Club entertained H.E. the Governor at dinner.
 25th—Opening of 1897-98 Session of the Legislative Council.
 27th—West Yorks "At home" on the Polo Ground.
 29th—Singapore fired in interport shooting match and scored 934.
 31st—Death of Mr. James Sampson, at Hongkong.

NOVEMBER.

- 1st—Telegram received from Secretary of State directing Mr. Osmund's dismissal from the public service and the loss of pension. — Murder of two German priests in Shantung.
 4th—Committee of Singapore Chamber of Commerce recommended adoption of gold currency. — Launch *Elsie* run into by ferry launch *Morning Star* and sunk in the harbour.
 6th—Fifth Gymkhana Meeting at Happy Valley.

- 8th—Interport Cricket Match: Straits Settlements v. Hongkong. — Shanghai fired in interport shooting match and scored 860. — Death of Mr. J. D. Humphreys in England.
 9th—Interport Cricket Match: Straits Settlements v. Hongkong; Straits won by an innings and 79 runs. — A.D.C. performance of "A Pair of Spectacles" at the City Hall.
 10th—Interport Cricket Match: Straits Settlements v. Shanghai; Straits won by an innings and eleven runs.
 11th—Interport Cricket Match: Shanghai v. Hongkong. — Hongkong fired in interport shooting match and scored 916; Singapore won with 934.
 12th—Interport Cricket Match: Shanghai v. Hongkong; Hongkong won by one wicket. — Evening fête at the Cricket Ground.
 13th—Interport Cricket Match: Straits Settlements v. Shanghai and Hongkong. — Dinner to cricketers at City Hall.
 14th—Double murder and attempted suicide in Shelley Street. — Germans took possession of Kiaochau Bay, on the south coast of Shantung Promontory, as satisfaction for murder of two German priests on the 1st November.
 15th—Interport Cricket Match: Straits Settlements v. Shanghai and Hongkong; Straits won by an innings and 231 runs. — Dance at Government House in honour of cricketers. — Gang robbery and murder in Burd Street; six arrests made.
 16th—Hongkong beat Straits Settlements and Shanghai by two goals to nil at Happy Valley. — Gallant rescue from drowning by a soldier in the harbour.
 17th—Volunteer concert at City Hall in honour of cricketers.
 18th—Outbreak of foot and mouth disease at Pokfulam Dairy Farm. — Visiting Cricketers left Hongkong.
 20th—Taikoo Club bicycle tournament.
 23rd—Fire at 64, Third Street; fifteen Chinese burnt to death.
 27th—Suicide of Mr. W. K. Wylie, Superintendent Engineer of the Peak Tramway. — Fete at Government House in aid of East London poor.
 28th—Fire at 122, Second Street.
 29th—Death of M. Imbault Huart, French Consul at Canton.
 30th—St. Andrew's Ball at the City Hall. — Norwegian steamer *Tuncered* sunk near Port Cockburn, Iriomoto Island.

DECEMBER.

- 1st—Fire at Stanley; five houses gutted.
 3rd—Capture of Kiaochau City by the Germans. — Philharmonic Society's concert at City Hall.
 4th—Fatal Accident to Mr. Robert Torrence, chief engineer of the *Honam*. — Death of Mr. Thomas Campbell of the Hongkong Fire Brigade.
 9th—Annual Regatta.
 10th—Annual Regatta.
 11th—Presentation of Jubilee medals by H.E. the Governor.
 12th—Suicide of Captain Waddilove at Yokohama.
 14th—Boxing tournament at the City Hall. — Fall of a house in Hollywood Road; one girl killed.
 15th—Attack on Haiphong by bandits; M. Gauthier killed.
 16th—Engineers' dance at the City Hall. — Arrival of the King of Siam at Bangkok on his return from a tour of Europe.
 20th—Organ recital in St. John's Cathedral by Mr. A. G. Ward.
 21st—Royal Artillery sports at Happy Valley. — Lecture to Odd Volumes Society by H.E. the Governor on Milton and Handel.
 22nd—Fire at the Naval Yard.
 23rd—Farewell concert at the City Hall by the Band of the West Yorkshire Regiment. — Arrival of the round-the-world cyclists at Shanghai.
 24th—Three men sentenced to death for murder in Burd Street. — Suicide of Mr. Obaldo Kluth, secretary and manager of Club Concordia, Shanghai. — Loss of the Japanese steamer *Naramaru*, on a hidden rock off the Pescadores; 73 lives lost.
 26th—Arrival of the King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment from Malta.

THE REBELLION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

A SPANISH OFFICER AND THE REBEL LEADER INTERVIEWED.

CONDITIONS OF SURRENDER.

The rebellion in the Philippines may now be considered at an end. The power of money has proved of greater service to the Spanish cause than all the regiments of soldiers stationed in the islands, and to that power the rebel chiefs have surrendered and are now comfortably ensconced in Hongkong, their followers being left to give up their arms and be forgiven for their past misdeeds. The natives are said to have received the news of peace with acclamation, as they have been anxious for a long time to cease hostilities, but they did not quite know how to do it with advantage, being either ignorant of how to approach the Government or in dread fear of the consequences of surrender.

There are at present thirty-five rebel chiefs in Hongkong, who were brought here in the steamer *Uranus*. Nine of them are staying at the Hongkong Hotel, and their names are—Emilio Aguinaldo, who is the leader, Mariano Llanire, Antonio Montenegro, Vito Belarmino, Escolastico Viola, Luis Viola, Gregoris H. del Pilar, Manuel Fino, and Wenceslao Vinégra. They are all rather young, sparely built men of medium height, and certainly do not look as if they had a very terrible mission in life. By rising against the Government they have no doubt benefited themselves and all the other natives. They rebelled because of the animosity shown towards them by the priests. Individually the priests are looked upon as being inoffensive, good men, but as a body their power was thought to be prejudicial to the interests of the natives. The rebellion, however, has had the effect, we believe, of considerably diminishing the power of the priests, and it is in that respect that the natives, and perhaps the Spanish Government as well, will reap the advantage.

Accompanying the rebel chiefs were three well known Spanish officers, Lieutenant-Colonel Primo de Rivera, Major Antonio Pezzi, and Captain Celestino Espinosa. The first and third named officers are A.D.C.'s to His Excellency the Governor General and Commander in Chief of the Philippines, who is their uncle, and Major Pezzi is the Chief Commissioner. Mr. John T. MacLeod, managing director of the Compania Maritima, of Manila, one of the best known men in the Philippines, also came with the party.

Taking advantage of the presence in the colony of these high officers and rebel chiefs a representative of the *Daily Press* paid a visit to the Hongkong Hotel for the purpose of interviewing Colonel Rivera and the rebel leader, Emilio Aguinaldo. The two men are totally dissimilar. Colonel Rivera is a tall, handsome man with a fresh complexion and a moustache à la militaire, while Aguinaldo has no hair on his fallow face, and the hair on his head is short, black, and stubbly. He appears to be a youngster of one and twenty and no more formidable looking than a dove. In reality his age is twenty-seven and he must possess considerable ability to have succeeded in maintaining the rebellion for so long a period.

There was no difficulty in finding Aguinaldo. All the servant boys knew him and his apartments, and they seemed to be quite accustomed to taking visitors to him. When our representative entered a private sitting room Aguinaldo was busily engaged with a European tailor. A frock coat was just then claiming his attention and a polite request to interview the rebel chief disclosed the fact that none of the half dozen of his confrères in the room could speak English. Just then somebody told the tailor that the collar of the coat was *trop bas*. That was good enough. "You speak French?" said our representative to the tailor's critic. He did speak French and was good enough to do the Spanish interpretation. Monsieur Aguinaldo preferred not to say anything until the tailor had disposed of him, and we sat patiently watching the tailor setting out here and taking in there and ticking in pins with considerable professional skill and enthusiasm. At last the tailor was finished and he departed on his way rejoicing. We then announced ourselves. Aguinaldo did

not like the word "journalist." Some people are afraid to publicly express their opinions, and Aquinaldo is one of them. He became rather austere. He had nothing to say then, but if our representative would call in a few days he would perhaps be able to say something.

"What were the conditions of your surrender?" asked the *Daily Press* reporter.

"If you call in a few days—three or four days—perhaps I will tell you," he replied.

"But you know them now?" we persisted.

Aquinaldo remained impassive and silent on that subject. In answer to another query he said he did not know how long he would remain in Hongkong, or what he would do in the future.

"Can you tell me what were the true causes of the rebellion?"

"The principal cause," said Aquinaldo, "was the antagonism of the priests; that is all."

We harked back to the original question with the hope of getting a definite answer, but Aquinaldo was not to be drawn, and our representative retired.

Lieutenant-Colonel Primo de Rivera was far more communicative and he told his story while having his breakfast. As we have said, the Colonel is a fine specimen of the Spanish soldier. He is only twenty-seven years of age, and his rapid promotion was due to many signal services rendered to his country, particularly in Mellila, Africa, where, in the campaign against the natives of Morocco, he distinguished himself by rushing through the enemy's ranks and rescuing a cannon.

Through Mr. MacLeod, who acted as interpreter, Colonel Rivera said that the war in the Philippines was a very great evil, because, although the rebels were practically without means, they gave considerable trouble in the mountainous districts. At length a well known Philippino assumed the rôle of peacemaker and consented to act as mediator between the Spanish Government and the rebels. He found that the rebels were very anxious to give up their arms and the negotiations for peace were quickly and satisfactorily concluded. The rebel chiefs were offered sufficient money wherewith to live abroad and surprised at this offer and confiding solely in the generosity of the Government, they consented to surrender. The proclamation of peace was received with great enthusiasm by the natives, who are anxious that the riches of the country shall be advantageously applied. While the negotiations for peace were in progress Colonel Rivera, alone and unarmed, with the exception of his sword, went to the rebel camp at Biad Na Bato, which is a mountain near the well known sulphur springs of Sibul in the province of Bulacan, and distant about sixty miles from Manila. To reach this place one goes by rail as far as Calumpit, on the Rio Grande, and from there across very difficult country, which has to be traversed on horseback or in some vehicle. It was the mountainous and rough nature of the country that gave the rebels no little advantage, their position being somewhat similar to that of the Afrideis on the north-west frontier of India. At the conclusion of the negotiations Colonel Rivera conducted the rebel chiefs to Sual, where they all embarked on board the Spanish steamer *Uranus*, which sailed for Hongkong on the 27th December. Throughout this journey the rebel chiefs were permitted to carry their revolvers as a sort of guarantee of the good intentions of the Spanish Government, the Spanish officers being unarmed.

Asked about the future, the Colonel remarked that he did not know what the thirty-five men would do. They could please themselves on that point. They could go anywhere they wished, even to Spain, but they were prohibited from going to any Spanish colony for the present.

Colonel Rivera, in answer to another question, said no special conditions or promises were made by the Government. The chiefs had been supplied with sufficient money to live upon until such time as it was deemed expedient to permit them to return to the Philippines.

"There is a rumour," said our reporter, "that the men have been paid one and a half million dollars by the Government. Is that true?"

"No," replied the Colonel. "You may assure the public that the amount does not reach a third part of that sum."

"And what about the thousands of men remaining behind?"

"One of the conditions is that the rebels still remaining within the small radius of the insurrection must deliver up their arms to the Government, and in return they will be pardoned and a passport given to them to return to their own native villages."

"Will any of the troops be withdrawn now that the rebellion is over?" asked the interviewer.

"The troops will not be withdrawn. We shall always," said the Colonel, "keep a strong force in the Philippines, and we shall send home only the sick and time-expired men. At present there are twenty-two thousand troops there."

Colonel Rivera wished to lay stress on the fact that the rebellion existed only in the five Tagalog provinces, which comprise a very small but mountainous area. When the Governor-General decided to call for volunteers there was quite a rush of people anxious to help the Government, and in the first battle in which the volunteers took part there was a keen competition amongst the different companies as to which should be the first to take the field.

Asked whether any arms were surreptitiously imported into the islands Colonel Rivera said he did not think so for one moment. The rebels armed themselves with either their own weapons or with weapons they took in the first moment of surprise from the police outposts. The rebels had little difficulty in obtaining food, which has always consisted simply of rice, salt fish, and a sort of dried meat, but latterly it was believed they were getting towards the end of their resources.

The Colonel had now got to the end of his breakfast and as he had no more to say he cordially wished the interviewer good-bye.

WRECK OF THE "NARA MARU" WITH LARGE LOSS OF LIFE.

[FROM OUR FORMOSA CORRESPONDENT.]

Tamsui, 28th December.

On the morning of the 24th instant the *Nara Maru*, a merchant steamer belonging to the Osaka Shosen Kwaisha, ran on a hidden rock of the Pescadore group and was so badly injured that she sank with nearly all on board. Out of eighty passengers and crew, but seven of the crew were able to reach shore. As soon as the report of the disaster reached the authorities the *Anping Maru* was dispatched to the scene, followed soon after by the cruiser *Tenryu*. The weather was very stormy, however, and the two vessels were obliged for their own protection to keep a distance from the wreck. The marine police of the Pescadores, by utilizing the native boats, were enabled to reach the wreck and a few bodies, including that of Captain Yasuda, were recovered. The drowned are all Japanese. Particulars will be sent later.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held at the offices on 30th December. Dr. J. M. Atkinson (Principal Civil Medical Officer) presided, and there were also present—Hon. R. D. Ormsby (Director of Public Works), Dr. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Mr. T. A. Howe (Deputy Superintendent of Police), Mr. H. McCallum (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

PLAGUE IN BOMBAY.

The official return showed that from the 17th November to the 1st December there were 213 cases of plague in the city of Bombay and 148 deaths.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

For the week ended 18th December the death rate was 17.7, and for the week ended 25th December 18.7, as against 23.7 and 13.6 respectively for the corresponding week of last year.

THE CATTLE DEPOT AT KOWLOON.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH said that at the last meeting an order was made closing the cattle depot at Kowloon for a fortnight. It was closed for that short period, because Mr. Ede rather feared that the butchers of Kowloon might suffer a hardship. If no

complaints had been received from the butchers he (the Medical Officer of Health) was prepared to move the continuation of the closure.

The SECRETARY said no complaints had been received and the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon reported that things had worked very smoothly.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH then moved that the cattle depot at Kowloon remain closed until a further report was received from the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon.

The PRESIDENT seconded.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Board then adjourned until next Thursday week.

ARRIVAL OF H.M.S. "POWERFUL."

The first class cruiser *Powerful*, which left Singapore on the 29th December, entered Hongkong harbour by Lyemoo Pass at one o'clock on Monday afternoon, 3rd January. The large vessel, which is the largest warship ever seen here, attracted considerable attention as she slowly steamed to her buoy, and her immense proportions dwarfed all the other vessels in the man-of-war anchorage, even the *Grafton* appearing to be but a mite as compared with her. The *Powerful* had 1,090 souls on board, including reliefs for the fleet. Immediately the buoy was reached the Captain (Hon. Hedworth Lambton) paid a visit to Commodore Holland. The *Powerful* will take in nearly three thousand tons of coal and it is expected she will leave for the North as soon as possible. The *Grafton* leaves to-day.

The following is the list of the officers of the *Powerful*—Captain the Hon. Hedworth Lambton; Commanders A. P. Ethelston and Logan S. Standsfield (N.); Lieutenants John Nicholas, F. G. Egerton (G.), A. W. Heneage (T.), Halsey, P. Streatfield, M. H. Hodges, J. A. Ingles; Capt. of Marines, A. G. B. Urmston; Lieut. of Marines, F. J. Saunders; chaplain and Nav. inst., Rev. E. G. Cull, M.A.; Fleet Surgeon, J. C. Dow, M.B.I. Fleet Paymaster, W. H. F. Kay; Fleet Engineer, R. W. Edwards; Sub-Lieuts., B. V. Brooke, A. B. S. Dutton, and W. B. Compton; Surgeon, C. M. Beadnell; Assis. Paym., C. J. E. Rotter; Engineers, L. Wall, E. H. Ellis, C. C. Sheen; Assist. Engineers, L. Howell, F. J. Charlton, J. J. Shirvell, H. C. Dowling.

HONGKONG HIGH-LEVEL TRAMWAYS CO., LIMITED.

The thirteenth ordinary general meeting of the shareholders in the Hongkong High-Level Tramways Company, Limited, was held at the offices of the general managers, Messrs. J. D. Humphreys and Son, on 31st Dec., at noon. Mr. Hart Buck presided and there were also present—Messrs. J. Orange, C. Ewens, H. Humphreys, H. Wicking, G. Murray Bain, and A. H. Mancell.

Mr. HUMPHREYS read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the report has been in your hands for several days, so with your permission I will take it as read. You will be pleased to find that our returns are steadily increasing, and we are this year able to pay a dividend of 7 per cent. against 6 per cent. last year. I think I can safely say that almost everything points to a continued steady increase in our earnings, particularly as the new road now in course of construction will open up Magazine Gap and its locality to the tram service. The closing of the Mount Austin Hotel has, of course, been a loss to us since 1st October, but when it is again inhabited we expect to more than recover any loss that has been sustained. I do not, however, wish shareholders to take too sanguine a view of the future for we must bear in mind that with the low exchange one of the principal items of our expenditure, that is the cable, costs us about $\frac{1}{4}$ more than it did when we first took the management of the Company. The price of coal also has considerably increased and we do not anticipate any reduction of prices for some time to come. At the same time we feel confident that shareholders will continue to receive a steady return on their investments. Before moving the adoption of the report and statement of accounts I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

Mr. MURRAY BAIN—Can you tell us anything about the arrangements you have made with regard to the new Superintendent of the Company?

The CHAIRMAN—I am pleased to say that we have appointed a Superintendent who we consider is a very good man in the place of our late Superintendent. He is Mr. C. D. Byers, who is at present acting as chief engineer on the *Fushun*. He is a gentleman well known by nearly everyone on the coast and by some of the prominent residents in Hongkong. He has been particularly recommended to us and I think we have been very fortunate in getting his services.

There were no further questions and the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. MURRAY BAIN seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the re-election of Messrs. C. Ewins and J. Orange as the Consulting Committee.

Mr. MANCELL seconded.

Carried.

Mr. WICKING proposed the re-election of Messrs. Fullarton Henderson and W. H. Potts as auditors for the ensuing year.

Mr. ORANGE seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business of the meeting, gentlemen. To-morrow being a Bank holiday we shall issue dividend warrants on Monday morning. I thank you for your attendance.

THE NEW BALMORAL GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

The General Managers, Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son, have received the following report from their mining manager by steamer *Changsha*—

Mount Macdonald,
3rd December, 1897.

I have the honour to report that work is being pushed on as speedily as circumstances will permit.

Nothing fresh since last report, but have every confidence that with the opening up of the Queen Mine at the depth anticipated, viz., 350 feet, a prosperous future will result.

The work of pulling down and removing the battery to the new site is progressing most satisfactorily.

OLIVERS FRAEHOOLD MINES, LIMITED.

The General Managers, Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son, have received the following report from their mining manager by steamer *Changsha*—

Mount Macdonald,
3rd December, 1897.

I have the honour to report work done during week ending 3rd December, as follows:—

Eureka Mine—Main shaft sunk 3½ feet. Total below 200 ft. level 95½. Country hard and difficult to break. After sinking an additional 10½ feet will open out for the 300 ft. level.

Have started several men to break ore in stopes above the 200 and 150 ft. levels, and are engaged hauling ore eight hours per day from these levels. Driving on the lode north and south will be resumed shortly. Expect to have full complement of men working underground next week.

G. L. 105.—Reef in bottom of underlie shaft improving, but owing to the excessively hot weather experienced lately have been troubled with foul air. Steps will be taken to remedy this at once.

Olivers Battery.—The new spur wheel to replace the broken one arrived late on Saturday, 27th ult., and was put in position as soon as possible and other portions of works that had to be removed in order to get the broken wheel off, and the new one on, were replaced, and crushing was resumed at 12 o'clock on Sunday night, and we are now crushing at the rate of about 200 tons per week.

Everything in connection with both mine and machinery is in first class order, and unless something that is impossible to foresee occurs we ought to have a long and successful run.

The General Managers have also received the following telegram:—“A crushing of 400 tons of quartz from Eureka has yielded ¼ an ounce to the ton. Shaft has reached a depth of 300 feet.”

RAUB.

The following is the Acting Mining Manager's Report for the four weeks ending on 16th December, 1897:—

Raub Hole.—The Main West Crosscut has been extended 33 ft. making the total distance from the shaft of 406 ft. We have cut several small leaders, none of which carry gold.

The Main North Drive on the course of the lode formation has been extended 14 ft. making a total distance North from the West Crosscut of 280 ft. There is no change whatever here; the lode still continues about 4 in. thick and does not carry gold.

Stopes.—I have stopped work for the present in the stopes going south from the No. 2 winze as the ore body has pinched almost out. It may however be advisable at some future date to drive on this to thoroughly test it as it is possible the ore may make again further south.

In the stopes going north from the No. 2 winze the lode will average about 1½ in. of nice solid stone which carries good gold. This chute of ore is about worked out to the intermediate level above.

I intend putting on a party of men to work some of the small rich leaders still unworked in the top level.

Bukit Koman 140 ft. Level. North Drive.—The lode continues about 7 ft. wide, is better defined and more solid than it was, but does not carry quite such good gold. This drive has been extended 22 ft. north, making the total distance from the crosscut 574 ft.

West Leaders.—Both bunches of leaders continue to carry fair gold and turn out a considerable amount of crushing stuff.

Winze No. 1 North.—This is down a total depth of 35 ft. all the way in solid stone, some of which carries good gold.

South Drive.—The new lode in this end has increased in size but is not nearly so solid as it was. It is about 4 ft. wide of bunches of quartz and quartz leaders, all of which carry a little gold. This new make of gold bearing stone is of great importance as it practically gives us a new mine in the South Drive, which for months past has been driven through blank ground. This drive has been extended 28 ft., making a total distance south from the main crosscut 766 ft.

The total distance of the 140 ft. level from face of North Drive to face of South Drive is 1,340 ft. or slightly over a quarter of a mile with gold in both faces. This will give you a slight idea of the extent of this huge mine.

Stopes.—The Leading Stope coming in over the back of the main south drive:—I have resumed work here; the lode is small, there being about 1 ft. on the footwall side with several small leaders to the East, all of which carry fair gold and are payable.

No. 1 South Stope.—This lode continues the same, there being about 11 ft. of solid ore which carries fair gold.

No. 2 South Stope is also about 11 ft. thick of solid ore which carries fair gold.

No. 3 South Stope continues about 7 ft. wide of solid ore which carries good gold.

No. 4 South Stope is small, being only about 2 ft. thick of low grade ore.

Bottom Level North Drive.—The lode is fully 5 ft. thick of solid ore, in which fair gold can be freely seen in breaking down the ore. The ore here is of better quality than I have previously seen in this face. The drive has been extended 11 ft., making the total distance north from the crosscut 200 ft.

South Drive.—The lode is larger being fully 16 ft. wide and carries fair gold. This drive has been extended a further distance of 16 ft. making the total distance south from the crosscut 274 ft.

The total distance from north to south faces is 474 ft. with gold in both faces. With the exception of driving the north and south faces no other work is being done in this level. At present we have a block of stone 474 ft. long by 100 ft. high extending right up to the 140 ft. level above. This block is untouched and con-

tains thousands of tons of ore in reserve all ready to stope whenever required and this huge ore reserve is being added to daily as our drives extended.

Bukit Jellis—Very good progress is being made with the sinking of this shaft. It is now sunk and timbered a total distance of 150 feet, opening sets put in, and a chamber cut east 18 feet. This chamber is for a balance bob of another draw lift pump, it being advisable to make another lift of it before resuming sinking another 100 ft. This chamber will also answer when we crosscut for the lode at this level. Another small crosscut has been put in west to enable us to fix a water tank or cistern.

The progress of sinking this shaft is greatly hampered through having to haul the stuff by manual labour from the present depth of 150 ft. I am fixing up a winding engine temporarily and hope to have it at work shortly; this will facilitate the sinking, besides reducing the cost.

Battery.—On Monday, 6th instant, we had the usual rough clean up for the previous four weeks, the yield being 2,097½ ounces of amalgam from 1,072½ tons of ore crushed, which is an improvement on our previous rough clean up. The following are the particulars of the ore crushed.

Bukit Koman, 1,038 tons.
Raub Hole, 34½ tons.

Total 1,072½ tons

Crushing was resumed the same evening at 7 p.m. with 15 head of stamps only. Advantage was taken of the clean up to remove the old No. 2 Battery Box, which has been in use since we came here and was completely worn out. It was replaced by one of the boxes made in Singapore. This was completed and the five head at work on Tuesday. We have now two new boxes at work which makes half our present battery almost as good as new.

Electric Installation.—This work is being greatly hindered by the continuous wet weather we are having, it being impossible for men to work satisfactorily when it rains almost daily. This has caused a considerable amount of sickness amongst the coolies, fully 25 per cent. of them being laid up with fever, etc. Taking the weather into consideration I think good progress is being made with the work, all of which where at all possible is being done by contract. The following are the particulars of the work at which we are at present employed:—

Cart Road from Tras to Sempam Gap.
Cart Road from Sempam Gap to Power Station.

Excavating site for power station.

Clearing cable track.

Sawing timber for flume, etc.

The construction of the roads is being pushed on all we can, as when it is completed and joined to the Government road it will greatly reduce cost of transport of material, machinery and stores, and also sawn timber for the flume, etc.

GILBERT B. WHYTE,
Acting Mining Manager.

TAIKOO CLUB ATHLETIC SPORTS.

The members of the Taikoo Club always lay themselves out to favour the Hongkong public with good sport and abundant hospitality on the first day of the year. This is the seventh year the sports have been held at Quarry Bay and on Saturday there was the usual happy throng of people to be seen lining the enclosure, watching the progress of the events with keen interest or merrily chatting over a cup of tea or some other refreshing beverage. The management of the sports was as usual in careful hands and the proceedings were throughout of the most enjoyable and interesting character. A. McKirdy carried off most of the prizes and his winning the championship cup was highly popular. At the conclusion of the sports Mrs. Poate kindly distributed the prizes.

The following were the officials:—

President:—Mr. Herbert Smith.

Committee:—Messrs. J. Blake, J. Harvie, J. Waddell, C. Blake, J. Coils, J. Mackay, R. Stuart, J. Dickie, J. Lochead, G. Buckland.

Handicappers:—Messrs. C. Blake, R. Stuart, J. Coils, J. Dickie.

Judges:—Messrs. C. Blake, T. Gibson, A. Rodger.

Timekeepers:—J. Blake, Mr. H. M. McKenzie, C. Lesbirel.
Clerks of Course:—Messrs. G. A. Buckland, and J. Harvie.

Lap Scorer:—Mr. W. Farmer.
Hon. Secretary of Sports Committee:—Mr. Geo. A. Buckland.

100 YARDS FLAT RACE; prize presented by the Victoria Recreation Club.

W. Sparkes } Dead heat.
J. Danby }

Time—11 seconds.

FINAL.

W. Sparkes 1
J. Danby 2

Time—11½ seconds.

TWO MILE BICYCLE RACE (open); start in saddle; 1st prize presented by the Cosmopolitan Dock staff; 2nd prize presented by the Vacuum Oil Co.

A. McKirdy 1
R. Henderson 2
J. Alves 3

Time—5 mins. 16½ secs.

PUTTING THE SHOT (confined); previous winners penalized 1 foot; prize presented by Messrs. Carmichael & Co.

R. Aitken (3ft.) 1
J. Coils (30ft. 6in.) 2

FOUR MILE BICYCLE RACE, start in saddle (open); 1st prize presented by the London & Lancashire Fire Insurance Company, Limited; 2nd prize by Mr. Tai Woo Loong.

A. McKirdy 1
C. Klipick 2
P. Musso 3

Time—11 mins.

THROWING THE HAMMER (confined); previous winners penalized one yard. Prize presented by Mr. Ah Poi.

T. Shand, penalized one yard (69ft. 2in.) 1
J. Coils (64ft. 2in.) 2
R. Perrie, penalized one yard (66ft. 2in.) 3

220 YARDS FLAT RACE (confined); prize presented by the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

W. Sparkes 1
J. Danby 2
E. F. Mackay 3

Time—25 secs.

ONE MILE BICYCLE RACE; start in saddle; (confined); 1st prize presented by the China Sugar Refinery staff; 2nd prize by Mr. Yuen Hop; first two in each heat to run in final.

A. McKirdy 1
D. Currie 2

Time—2 mins. 53½ secs.

HURDLE RACE; 6 Flights; (confined); prize presented by the Royal Exchange Assurance Co.

H. Arthur 1
J. Danby 2

Time—14½ secs.

ONE MILE BICYCLE RACE; start in saddle (open); 1st prize, Clement cup, presented by Messrs. Levy Hermanos & Co.; 2nd prize presented by Mr. Chan A. Tong. First two in each heat to run in final.

FIRST HEAT.

R. Henderson 1
Tse Wing Tun } Dead heat
J. Alves }

Time—2 mins. 39 secs.

SECOND HEAT.

T. Shand 1
F. Musso 2

Time—2 mins. 41 secs.

FINAL HEAT.

R. Henderson 1
T. Shand 2

Time—2 mins. 35½ secs.

HIGH JUMP (confined); previous winners penalized two inches; prize presented by Mr. Yuen Hop.

J. Danby, 4 ft. 8 in. 1
H. Arthur, 4 ft. 7½ in. 2

OBSTACLE RACE (confined); 1st prize presented by the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha; 2nd prize by Mr. D. Currie.

H. Arthur 1
A. McKirdy 2

Time—1 min. 8½ secs.

EGG AND SPOON BICYCLE RACE; start in saddle; (confined); once round track; prize presented by Mrs. Poate.

A. McKirdy 1
F. Shuster 2

Time—33½ secs.

80 YARDS SACK RACE; prize presented by Mr. A. H. Schoenfelder.

J. Danby 1
D. Currie 2

Time—27½ secs.

ONE MILE BICYCLE RACE; start in saddle; (veterans); competitors to be 35 years of age and upwards, and 10 years' residence in the East; 10 yards start for every year over 35; prize presented by the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

J. Blake (42 years) 1
J. Dickie (39 years) 2

Time—2 mins. 58 secs.

VISITORS' RACE; prize presented by the Taikoo Club.

J. Rose (8 yards) 1
W. Juster (8 yards) 2

Time—3½ secs.

CONSOLATION RACE; prize presented by the Taikoo Club.

R. Deckson (20 yards) 1
F. Silva Netto (scratch) 2

Time—14 secs.

CHAMPION CUP; presented by Mr. J. H. Scott; to be presented to the winner of most events.

A. McKirdy won the Champion Cup.

THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

BEST SCORE CUP FOR DECEMBER.

The following is the result of this competition, for which there were twenty-two entries and eight returns:—

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----|----|----|
| Mr. C. A. Tomes | 92 | 8 | 84 |
| Dr. J. M. Atkinson | 102 | 15 | 87 |
| Mr. E. Mackay | 108 | 20 | 88 |
| Mr. A. J. McClure | 105 | 16 | 89 |
| Mr. H. L. Dalrymple | 98 | 8 | 90 |
| Mr. E. A. Ram | 99 | 9 | 90 |
| Mr. A. A. W. Spencer | 108 | 18 | 90 |
| Capt. R. M. Rumsey | 101 | 8 | 93 |

NEWS FROM KIAOCHOU.

The N. C. Daily News translates the following from *Der Ostasiatischer Lloyd*:—

Tsingtao, 13th December.

A sign that, notwithstanding our military occupation of the bay of Kiaochou, the friendly relations between Germany and China have not been broken off, is visible in the non-interruption of telegraphic communication between the new German stations of Kiaochou and Tsingtao and the outside world. It is evident that the Chinese Government as well as our own, is earnestly striving for a peaceful solution of the present difficulty. In Tsingtao the little Chinese employee of the administration retains his post, clad in his elegant peach-red gown; but his pedantic, reticent behaviour compares very unfavourably with that of the sailors and non-commissioned officers—telegraphic experts—who have been adjoined to him. Unfortunately, at the Kiaochou station, the next on the line from this, a like arrangement of the telegraph office was not practicable; there the Chinese telegraph clerk concluded to do politics on his own account and abandoned his post in an access of Germanophobia, to which he gave expression in a telegram sent in English to Tsingtao in language not fit to be repeated. According to another story, he took French leave upon the approach of the Germans, fearing to be called to account for his telegraphic heart-outpourings. In any case his action led to a breach in telegraphic communication which lasted over a week but which, although it disturbed our official traffic, did little harm to us personally, as the *Ostasiatischer Lloyd* is hardly yet the "World-paper" to be able to wire its correspondence to its subscribers, even had we the necessary permission to use the wire. Consequently we must beg our readers to have patience for a time which will happily not be long. We have to thank the Telegraph Administration for sending a fresh clerk and so restoring communication.

Otherwise peace and quiet reign absolutely. The detachment of 500 marines and sailors sent to Chimo has been withdrawn, now that all the Chinese troops have left the neighbourhood. It was a bitter, cold day, the thermometer at 19 F., and a north-west gale blowing, as the men marched back in high spirits singing their soldier songs (the wind was at their backs) with a high colour from the wind and sun. And

why should they not look healthy? Is it not the home climate, in which we are living Rice and bananas grow here no more than they do at home; and our peasants would soon learn to accommodate themselves to the mosquitoes and the somewhat higher summer temperature. What a pity that this fine country is already fully occupied by the children of the yellow race and that they cannot be driven out or exterminated with the aid of powder and alcohol like the aborigines of Africa, Australia, and Polynesia. But of the Chinese, with life and reproductive powers equal to our own and so few wants, no idea of displacement is entertainable. Under these circumstances, never will China offer a field for colonisation to the surplus population of Europe. And yet here, too, we have what cannot withstand Western civilisation with its strange disintegrating influences; its Christianity and love of one's neighbour on the one hand; on the other, the reckless selfishness and individualism of our European industrialism—both backed by modern war methods—and this is the ancient empire of China. It is a hopeless invalid, whose decease is only a question of time. By the help of that Western civilisation which has destroyed it must the Chinese empire be again restored. In this work of the coming century we shall now take our part starting from Kiaochou. From this point of vantage we shall be in a position to support a modern Chinese government with word and deed, as well as to watch over the safety of our missionaries in the interior of China and to push the extension of our trade.

The English cruiser *Undaunted*, which put in an appearance here on the 9th of December, left us again on the 11th. Before that a small English man-of-war, the *Algerine*, our old friend from Shanghai, had arrived and is still here. There is a rumour that English men-of-war are displaying great activity in the Gulf of Pechili. You will be better informed as to their movements in Shanghai than we here. Is it possible that, owing to our action here, England has been excited to a more active policy in China? Are complications between England and Russia threatening in regard to Korea? Such are the indications in the news brought by the German steamer *Svanow* yesterday. The arrival of a steamer is an event in this remote, newspaper-void, Bay of Kiaochou. So far only the German steamers chartered by the Admiral of the squadron come to this port. English steamers are said to have refused to call in here because, according to treaty, they render themselves liable to confiscation by calling at a non-open port. But the German steamers by no means limit themselves to the conveyance of letters and dispatches. The *Loongmoon*, which has made several voyages between this and Shanghai, has brought—besides fresh and preserved provisions in large quantities—numbers of ponies, timber for building, stoves, beds, and other furniture. The *Loyal* came in from Hongkong with coal recently. To-day I noticed on the landing jetty the cargo being landed from the steamer *Svanow*, doors and windows made in Shanghai, chairs and tables, sentry boxes to protect our sentries from wind and weather, and which will be shortly painted with the German colours—black, white, red—street-lanterns for our roads and barrack yards, huge kettles, great loads for the depot, and numberless other things which point to the fact that we intend to install ourselves both in comfortable and military shape. And wandering through the old Chinese camps, in which our brave blue-jackets are now housed, one sees the men all busily at work planking the floors and fitting doors and windows into their places. The *yamen* in Tsingtao—that magnificent range of buildings, formerly occupied by the Chinese general in command—is now being fitted out for dwellings for our own Head Command and the higher officers. From the landing place to the magazine go trains of coolies and small Chinese carts, drawn by a mule or pony, laden with stores for the different camps and returning empty. The country people move about them pursuing their ordinary occupations. Now we come across one of our well-known Shanghai wheelbarrows with the guest sitting on one side and her luggage on the other side of the wheel. It is a rather suspicious-looking small-footed beauty, decorated with white powder and deep rouge. What is she doing here? Has she come from

the interior of the country to visit a relation or has she been imported by some speculative Chinese in order here, like Eve, to undermine the morals of our hardy warriors? Here we have a decidedly more innocent picture,—a little ass led by a countryman, out of the baskets slung across on either side peep out the heads of two little children who gaze with astonished eyes upon the "Red Devils." Of course there is here no question of the abusive language so freely bestowed on the European in China—often with the accompaniment of stones, filth, and clods of earth,—not even in the interior of the occupied territory. You may wander alone or ride through the surrounding villages and you will be absolutely unmolested; indeed around Tsingtao you mostly get a friendly salute copied from our military salute. May it ever be thus!

When the wind blows strong from the North, a walk through the country or even a stroll through the streets of our little town of Tsingtao, does not afford much enjoyment; walking against it, the wind fairly takes away one's breath and one does well to cover up the ears. Then on the broad waters which look so pleasing from afar white combers rise up, unpleasant enough when one is close to them and which, though they leave our stately men-of-war undisturbed, play havoc with the small steam-launches and the drafts of men being landed from them at the pile jetty. But, when the stiff breeze drops, and the sea is once more like a mirror, and the sun warms up the landscape once more, then we gladly set out on a walk over hill and dale. The various hill ranges lie right across our direction and close to us. Some dozen higher and lower peaks project from the range, some crowned by most marvellously-shaped rocks. The highest peak, as already stated, barely exceeds 160 metres. Paths lead over the low passes uniting the villages which nestle in the valley bottoms. The hard and frozen paths are bad for our ponies, but at times we come upon the sandy beds of watercourses where we can gallop our animals. Most picturesque are the ravines winding upwards between rocky walls as they are cut deep into the earth; the broken rock material lends itself to most fantastic shapes. We have before us a model of the earth's evolution under the action of wind and water.

The sportsman, too, need not wander in vain over these fields and mountains. Our old German friend, the hare, is seen everywhere fleeing from the approaching stranger. The Chinese seem to have left him alone formerly, not caring much for game. But now that buyers for the dainty roast are steadily to be found in Tsingtao, the Chinese are pursuing it with great energy, driving them into nets, as, fortunately, they do not possess fire-arms. This will soon make an end of the hares in this neighbourhood and when our German forester arrives on the spot, there will be little for him to do; for it will be long before it will be possible to put in force game laws against the Chinese. Pheasants are also said to exist but I have so far seen none. One the other hand, huge flocks of wild geese are to be seen as also the heron, a large handsome grey bird; one sees dozens of these beautiful animals in their long line of flight: it seems to take the place of the stork with us and, to judge by the appearance of the Chinese houses, he here fulfils his delicate office far better than does his long-legged brother in the old home.

THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE BRITISH FLEET.

Shanghai, 29th December.

The following native despatch was received here yesterday from Tinghai, the chief town in the Chusan islands:—On the 27th instant there were eleven British men-of-war in the vicinity of the islands, viz: seven in an inlet to the S.E. of Tinghai, while four more were reported to be at anchor at Pootoo, one of the islands of the archipelago. The British ships seemed to be constantly on the move, going and coming at frequent intervals, but apparently the flagship is at the inlet, for that place seems to be the rendezvous for the others. There have, however, been no landing parties anywhere except to get water and fresh provisions from the people of the inlet.—*N. C. Daily News*

THE RUSSIAN FLEET AT PORT ARTHUR.

On the 22nd December a British man-of-war was steaming into Port Arthur, when signals were made to her by the Chinese military authorities to turn back and under no circumstances to enter the harbour. This message was disregarded—the British man-of-war steaming into the land-locked waters as though no such order had been given—or else the Captain put the telescope to the blind eye.

There were several Russian men-of-war in Port Arthur at the time, and these the visitor saluted in the orthodox way. The salute was, of course, returned. After a stay of a few hours, and a visit from some officers on shore, the British man-of-war steamed out to sea.—*Mercury*.

FAILURE OF A WELL KNOWN NATIVE MERCHANT AT SHANGHAI.

Shanghai, 28th December.

Yesterday Foo Chong, the well-known coal-merchant, speculator in opium, metals, etc., suspended payment. His liabilities reach Tls. 350,000, against which his assets are variously estimated at Tls. 250,000. His failure is believed to be due to over-speculation in shares of all descriptions, besides losses in his own business. It is thought that the settlement of the 31st inst. will be considerably hampered by the snapping of this solid link in the chain of share dealers. Several of the native bankers have seized his books and are examining into his accounts. A meeting will shortly be held to ascertain the possibilities of carrying him over the difficulty, and it is held that he will be able, if sufficient time is given him, to meet his liabilities.—*Mercury*.

ENGLAND'S SPHERE OF INFLUENCE.

What is meant by "Chusan and its dependencies?" The Bocca Tigris Convention was negotiated mainly with reference to China's protracted reluctance to admit British subjects to Canton. The first epoch of that reluctance culminated in acts of violence in 1840, the immediate results of which were the despatch of Sir Gordon Bremer's expedition, the occupation of Chusan and Kulangsu and various military operations. These islands were subsequently held as security for the fulfilment of the engagements made by China in the Treaty of Nanking (1842), namely, residential and trade facilities for British subjects in Canton, Amoy, Foochow, Ningpo and Shanghai; the cession of Hongkong, the payment of an indemnity of 21 million dollars, and certain minor concessions. But in the one point of opening Canton, China found herself unable to keep faith, and after four years of waiting, the British Government withdrew the garrison from Chusan, concluding, at the same time, the Bocca Tigris Convention. Looking merely at the letter of the Convention, "Chusan and its dependencies" may be interpreted to mean the group of islands at the mouth of the Yangtze River. But looking to the circumstances under which the convention was concluded, its intention would appear to have been the insurance of the whole coast between Canton and the mouth of the Yangtze against foreign aggression. Germany at Samsha would be planted between Hongkong and Chusan. She would virtually command the mouth of the Yangtze as compared with England at Hongkong. Is it probable that England, with the Bocca Tigris Convention in her pocket, would submit to that very material change of conditions? We can not think so. At the time of the Liaotung affair, when public excitement ran so high about the coup made by the Three Powers and about the transfer of the centre of gravity of Far-Eastern politics to Berlin—St. Petersburg would have been a more accurate analysis—we ventured to point out that England, quietly and without seeking any one's co-operation, had made a more momentous and significant stroke off her own bat by sending a squadron up the Yangtze and guaranteeing the neutrality of the greatest water-way in the East, the line of division between northern and

southern China. The most superficial observer could not mistake the import of England's action on that occasion. It was an open declaration that she intended to preserve the continuity of the policy mapped out in the Convention of 1846, and that her resolve was to guarantee complete freedom of trade, and full security from foreign aggression, for the regions tapped by the Yangtze River. The idea of England's entering into an agreement, or accepting even the bare suggestion of an understanding, with any European Power to map out mutual "spheres of influence" or lines of partition in China is not to be entertained for an instant. Without pretending to claim any high standard of international morality for the British nation, we do allege that a plundering project of that nature would be hooted throughout the length and breadth of the land. But during the long course of England's commercial relations and unhappy quarrels with China, extending over an interval of 57 years, there has been clearly indicated a policy which may be said to have been traced with the blood of her soldiers not less than with the pens of her diplomats. Virtually by her strength alone the coastwise provinces of Kwangtung, Fuhkien, Chehkiang, and Kiangsu have been opened to foreign trade, and the water-way from the two last to the seven inland provinces of China—the provinces extending from Burmah to the lower reaches of the Yangtze—has been kept open. That there has been any deliberate scheme of aggression on such a huge scale, we do not think of asserting. But events have assuredly shaped themselves so that England, if confronted with the contingency of foreign aggression in the districts lying between the mouth of the Yangtze and Hongkong, would be justified in pointing to the history of her relations with China since 1840, and in claiming that a sphere has been delimited for her by a train of incidents not to be misconstrued or minimized.—*Japan Mail*.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 30th December.

The theatrical performance and concert given by amateurs on Sunday last at the Theatre D. Pedro V. for the benefit of the Italian convent was most successful. The public know how deserving of support this institution is, and this, coupled with the excellent programme, secured a large attendance. The orchestra was composed of mandolins, violins, guitar, violincellos, flutes, and piano, and the music was highly appreciated, the execution being of a very high order. The acting was also good. The receipts, I hear, amounted to \$2,000. The public, I am sure, would be glad to have more of such entertainments.

Before the Chief Justice, Dr. Alpoim, Messrs. Barbosa, Vasco, and Poiarés, all Government servants, yesterday summoned the editor of the *Echo Macaense* for abuse of the liberty of the press, because in the last few numbers of the paper abusive articles have appeared in reference to the said gentlemen. The petition claimed 100,000 reis damages for each of the complainants, 640 reis being equal to one dollar. The hearing occupied about three hours. The court found the editor guilty and passed sentence of ten days' imprisonment, or 10,000 reis, and a fine of 40,000 reis, the question of damages being left over; the defendant to pay the costs of the hearing and to publish the judgment in the *Echo*. The court was crowded during the hearing. This is, I believe, the first case of its kind that has taken place in Macao.

The *Batavia Nieuwsblad* gives particulars of the wreck of the American barque *Conqueror*, already reported. The *Conqueror* stranded on one of the Thousand Islands group near that port. She was laden with gambier, rattan, and tapioca, all of which are a total loss. Eight feet of water stood in her hold. The crew left the wreck in boats, and arrived at Batavia on the 16th December. The *Conqueror* is said to be an old vessel. It was launched in 1874, and measured 1,540 tons, net. Eighteen of the crew of the wrecked vessel arrived at Singapore from Batavia on the 20th December.

HONGKONG.

The New Year festivities are now over and residents have once more settled down to the ordinary affairs of life. The occupation of Hainan by the French is not yet true, as far as can be ascertained. On New Year's day the Taikoo Club held an athletic meeting at Quarry Bay and there was quite a large attendance of holiday makers. H.M.S. *Powerful* arrived on Monday afternoon and will doubtless go North in a few days. A batch of rebel chiefs from the Philippines recently arrived in the colony, being brought here in the Spanish steamer *Uranus*. They have received a comfortable annuity on promising not to go to any Spanish colony and they have made themselves quite at home since nestling under the British flag.

Four men were caught gambling in a house in West Street and at the Magistracy on 3rd January one was fined \$100 and the others \$10 each.

For stealing a tin of condensed milk from No. 1 Kowloon Godowns a Chinaman was on 30th Dec. sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment with hard labour.

Thomas Graham, master of the American lorch *Lil*, was fined \$10 at the Police Court on 3rd January for carrying kerosine oil on the uncovered deck of the boat while moving in the harbour.

A football match was played on Saturday at the Happy Valley between Jubilee Cricket and Football Club and the Independent Cricket and Football Club. The former won by three goals to one.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donation to the funds of the Hospitals:—

Nam Pak Hong Guild \$300

Admiral Sir Nowel Salmon and Lady Salmon, who arrived from Japan by the *Empress of China*, left by the *Prinz Heinrich* on the 4th Jan. for Europe. Admiral and Lady Salmon are making a round-the-world tour.

The Local Secretary informs us that Miss S. Mehta, A.A., of Victoria English Schools, Senior Candidate at the Oxford Local Examinations last July, was placed in the list "Distinguished" for Religious Knowledge.

John Gordon, a private in the King's Own Lancaster Regiment, was charged at the Police Court on 3rd January with being drunk and disorderly and damaging Government property. The defendant smashed a police notice board at Yau-mati and he was ordered to pay \$1 amends and a fine of \$1.

There was a crop of accidents in the harbour on Wednesday, 29th Dec., the result being that one life was lost. The first accident occurred early in the morning, when the tugboat *Tow* collided with a boat, the occupants of which were fortunately rescued. Late in the afternoon the second accident occurred. The *Rising Star* ferry launch ran into a sampan and the occupants, a man, his wife, and five children, were thrown into the water. One of the children, a baby twelve months' old, was drowned. The screw of the steamer *Siam* struck a coal boat, which was sunk without loss of life.

At the Magistracy on 30th Dec., before Hon. H. E. Wodehouse, Lo Nam, a building contractor, of Stanton Street, charged his concubine and her mother with robbing him. The complainant went to the theatre on the 21st inst. and on his return found that a box containing \$1,000 and jewellery of the value of about \$300 had been stolen from his bedroom. Inquiries by the police proved the complicity of the two women, who were arrested and nearly the whole of the property was recovered. The prisoners pleaded guilty and were sent to gaol for six months with hard labour.

Brass fittings to the value of \$1,300 were stolen from the Cosmopolitan Dock on Wednesday night, 29th December, and later an Indian constable arrested two men who could not give a satisfactory account of themselves. The robbery was reported to Inspector Butlin, who found that one of the men was an apprentice in the employ of the Dock Company. When the men were taken before the Magistrate yesterday the Inspector asked for a remand for a week in order to ascertain if they had had a hand in the theft. The application was granted. Property to the value of \$1,170 has been recovered by the Police.

The honour of knighthood conferred on Mr. Justice Ackroyd has been well deserved by a long and honourable career, and the community of Hongkong will be glad to congratulate him upon it. Sir E. J. Ackroyd retired several years ago.

We hear that Mr. A. R. Marty has bought four steamers, including the *Cass*, *Smith*, and *Fokien*, which were concerned in the Bennertz case. Mr. Marty went to Shanghai several days ago in order to personally conduct the negotiations.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that H.E. the Governor has been pleased to recognise Mr. J. Grant Smith as in temporary charge of the Peruvian Consulate-General during the absence from the colony of Mr. Felipe S. Mesa, or until further notice.

At the Magistracy on 29th Dec. a man was fined \$25 for keeping open an opium smoking divan at No. 166, Hollywood Road, without a license and having in his possession two taels and four mace of opium dross without the knowledge and consent of the Dross Farmer.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that a despatch has been received from the Secretary of State disallowing the Ordinance to amend the Widows' and Orphans' Pensions (Amendment) Ordinance. The object of the disallowed Ordinance was to make officers occupying free quarters contribute to the fund in respect of the estimated value of such free quarters.

The Royal Engineers gave a most enjoyable quadrille party in the R.E. theatre at Wellington Barracks on Tuesday evening, 28th Dec. The room was decorated with evergreens, flags, and lamps, and the dancers had a very merry time until the early morning. The arrangements were in the hands of Sergeant Press, who was most energetic in the performance of his duties.

The Magistrate made some strong remarks on 3rd Jan. in the case in which a woman was charged on remand with gross cruelty to a child. His Worship, after complimenting a hawker who gave information to the police, said he considered the case a most abominable one, as the prisoner had treated the child in a most shocking way. The child, which was miserably wretched, had been purchased by the prisoner, who apparently thought she could do what she liked with her, but under British rule at any rate a woman could not behave so abominably towards a child as the prisoner had done. He had very much pleasure in sending her to gaol for six months with hard labour.

On the arrival of the Chinese-owned river steamer *Saikong* at Canton from Hongkong on the 29th December two men who had been found on board with a quantity of arms and ammunition in their possession were handed over to the Chinese authorities. The *Macao paper O Independente* publishes rather an alarming paragraph in reference to the occurrence, in which it is represented that a piratical plot against the steamer was discovered and frustrated, but according to the agents it was a simple case of smuggling. Having regard, however, to the state of affairs on the river and the numerous cases of piracy on native craft, close vigilance on the river steamers is important. Smugglers of arms would no doubt readily turn pirates if a favourable opportunity offered.

The New Year was ushered in at the Kowloon Docks amidst an atmosphere of rollicking gaiety. The employees of the Dock Company gave their annual dance on New Year's Eve and when mid-night came great cheering and the jovial enthusiasm greeted 1898, everyone of the large company present exchanging congratulations and wishing all every prosperity during the year. The dancing rooms and the other rooms were all handsomely decorated and dancing was carried on until an early hour of the morning. Mr. Rutter throughout acting as M.C. At supper, which was most excellently served, Mr. David Gillies referred to the great services the employees had rendered to the Company and remarked that the prosperity of the Company was due to the high standard of efficiency and intelligence which had always been displayed by the employees. Mr. W. Stewart, secretary of the Committee, and Mr. Cooke, assistant manager, also spoke and the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" concluded an immensely enjoyable entertainment.

At 4.45 p.m. on the 28th instant a watchman on the steamer *Powan* saw a man going on board carrying two baskets. One of the baskets contained a tin of oil. As the man was always travelling up and down by the steamer, the watchman had his suspicions aroused, and upon opening the tin of oil found four revolvers at the bottom. The wooden handles had been removed and were found on the man's person. At the Magistracy yesterday Hon. H. E. Wodehouse sentenced the prisoner to three months' imprisonment with hard labour. The prisoner was willing to pay a fine, but it was refused.

On Saturday afternoon, 1st Jan., the *Jelunga* left Hongkong with the West Yorkshire Regiment for Singapore and details for England. The men embarked at Kowloon wharf to the strains of the band of the Hongkong Regiment, and just prior to leaving "Auld lang syne" was played and hundreds of good wishes for the Regiment were expressed by the numerous friends of the officers and men. Amongst these who left, in addition to the Regiment, were Lieut.-Col. F. N. Clarke, Army Ordnance Department; Surgeon Lieutenant-Colonel Johnston, Mrs. Johnston, and child; Lieutenants A. J. R. Greene and C. N. Buzzard; Mrs. Welman and child; and Lieut. and Qr.-Mr. R. Adams, A.M.S.

The Hongkong Volunteer Corps engaged in gun practice at Deep Water Bay on New Year's Day. Headed by the drum and fife band both units marched from headquarters in the morning and embarked on a launch at Murray Pier. At Deep Water Bay the guns were dismounted and taken ashore in boats and after tiffin firing commenced from the hillside, to which place the guns were carried. This in itself was excellent practice, as the ground was steep and rough. The firing of the 7 prs. and the Maxims was very effective, all the targets being well drilled with shot. In preparing for the return journey one of the guns fell into the water as it was being hauled from a boat into the launch, but the gun was subsequently recovered and taken to headquarters. The day was beautifully fine and the men spent a most profitable and enjoyable time.

At the Police Court on 29th Dec., before Hon. H. E. Wodehouse, Francis de Souza, of Government Villas East, summoned F. A. Pearson, of Government Villas West, for assault. The complainant is a watchman in the employ of the Sanitary Board and the defendant is an overseer in the Public Works Department. According to the plaintiff's version he lent the defendant some candles and oil on Boxing Day and defendant then invited him to his house. The invitation was accepted and during the evening the defendant, who had been drinking, said he would like to hang up all the coloured people on the highest trees in Hongkong. The complainant told him not to use insulting words and then defendant struck him a violent blow on the nose. In answer to Mr. Master, who appeared for the defendant, the complainant denied using any vulgar expression or saying that he would fight any Portuguese in the colony. Mr. Master said the assault was committed because complainant used very bad language in the presence of defendant's wife and children. The Magistrate adjourned the case until the 31st and advised the parties to settle the affair out of court. On the 31st His Worship dismissed the case.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Chefoo*, on the voyage from Swatow to Shanghai, off Dodd Island took six men off the wreck of a junk. The *Newchwang*, on the same voyage, also saved three ship-wrecked junkmen.

A nasty accident happened at the Yokohama pier on Tuesday afternoon (21st Dec.), says the *Japan Mail*, whereby Captain Pollock, of the P. and O. intermediate steamer *Malacca*, received serious injury. He was engaged watching from the pier the discharge of some iron rails when a sling broke and the loose steel wire end swung round catching Captain Pollock on the thigh. The force of the blow was so severe that the Commander fell down unconscious. He was picked up and conveyed to the General Hospital where he still remains. The *Malacca* proceeded from Yokohama to Kobe in charge of the chief officer.

The Messageries Maritimes steamer *Saghalien*, which left Kobe for Yokohama at 7 a.m. on the 14th December, broke down on the way up to Yokohama. At 6 p.m. the same day she was brought to a standstill by the breaking of the connecting rod, which in its turn smashed up the cylinder cover, piston, go a-head guide and guide shoes, also severely damaging the bed plate. Fortunately, says the *Japan Gazette*, the *Saghalien* is supplied with triple expansion engines and the damage, though considerable, was only to the intermediate engines. The wreckage having been cleared away she was able to start at noon the following day and made her way into port with such little assistance as her sails afforded. Great credit is due to her captain and officers in bringing her in only twenty-two hours behind her expected time and this with a delay of close on eighteen hours.

We (*Japan Mail*) have much pleasure in being able to record the return of His Excellency Baron d'Anethan to Tokyo in completely restored health. When Baron d'Anethan left Japan last spring he was suffering from a malady which would probably have baffled medical diagnosis a few years ago. After the attack of typhoid fever by which the Baron was prostrated in the summer of 1896, a portion of the microbes retained their vitality and effected a lodgment in one of the ribs. Constant pain and other distressing symptoms ensued, and Drs. Baelz and Scriba, correctly diagnosing the cause of the trouble, performed an operation which, though affording temporary relief, did not effect a radical cure, and had to be repeated on a more extensive scale in Europe. The Paris experts found it necessary to remove the whole of one rib and a small portion of the breast bone, the latter, happily, being only slightly affected, though had the operation been delayed much longer, the sternum would have been involved beyond the possibility of surgical aid. Recovery proved extraordinarily quick owing to the patient's excellent constitution, and the Baron is now a hale and hearty man, to the great delight of his innumerable friends and the no small gain of his country.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

| | 1897-98 | 1896-97 |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|
| | lbs. | lbs. |
| Canton and Macao | 5,782,225 | 6,058,521 |
| Shanghai and Hankow ... | 14,058,839 | 17,809,185 |
| Foochow | 12,309,891 | 12,510,514 |
| Amoy | 675,081 | 589,478 |
| | 32,826,036 | 36,967,698 |

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

| | 1897-98 | 1896-97 |
|----------------|------------|------------|
| | lbs. | lbs. |
| Shanghai | 18,823,511 | 18,244,124 |
| Amoy | 12,277,312 | 16,880,778 |
| Foochow | 7,516,903 | 10,805,536 |
| | 38,617,726 | 45,430,438 |

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

| | 1897-98 | 1896-97 |
|------------------------|------------|------------|
| | lbs. | lbs. |
| Shanghai and Hankow... | 19,462,293 | 22,949,123 |

SILK.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

| | 1897-98 | 1896-97 |
|----------------|------------|------------|
| | lbs. | lbs. |
| Yokohama | 25,670,808 | 25,949,716 |
| Kobe | 15,050,463 | 13,519,658 |
| | 40,721,356 | 39,469,374 |

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

| | 1897-98 | 1896-97 |
|----------------|---------|---------|
| | bales. | bales. |
| Shanghai | 7,692 | 3,491 |
| Canton | 8,235 | 2,249 |
| Yokohama | 23,006 | 9,619 |
| | 38,933 | 14,949 |

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

| | 1897-98 | 1896-97 |
|----------------|---------|---------|
| | bales. | bales. |
| Shanghai | 36,493 | 31,630 |
| Canton | 16,748 | 16,650 |
| Yokohama | 14,596 | 7,159 |
| | 67,837 | 55,439 |

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 4th January.—This market shows a slight improvement. Quotations for Formosa are nominally \$46.50 to \$47.75. Sales, 200 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 4th January.—The approach of the Chinese New Year has made the market a little more active again. Quotations are:—

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|--------|
| Shakloong, No. 1, White... | \$7.32 to 7.35 | per c. |
| do. " 2, White... | 6.95 to 6.97 | " |
| Shakloong, No. 1, Brown... | 4.72 to 4.75 | " |
| do. " 2, Brown... | 4.63 to 4.65 | " |
| Swatow, No. 1, White... | \$7.25 to 7.28 | " |
| do. " 2, White... | 6.91 to 6.94 | " |
| Swatow, No. 1, Brown... | 4.64 to 4.67 | " |
| do. " 2, Brown... | 4.51 to 4.54 | " |
| Sochoow Sugar Candy | 11.20 to 11.22 | " |
| Shakloong " | 9.70 to 9.75 | " |

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per American ship *Saint Mark*, sailed on the 21st December. From Hongkong for New York:—20,211 rolls matting, 7,912 packages firecrackers, 2,150 cases palm-leaf fans, 500 cases joss sticks, 350 bales and 100 cases cassia lignea, and 215 cases sundries.

Per P. & O. steamer *Canton*, sailed on the 22nd December. For London optional Manchester:—25 bales waste silk.

Per American ship *Drumellan*, sailed on the 22nd December. For New York:—16 packages merchandise, 20 packages paper, 28 boxes china-ware, 59 boxes cassia buds, 150 cases preserves, 176 bales strawbraid, 250 cases cassia lignea, 382 packages rattanware, 400 cases joss sticks, 1,627 boxes palm-leaf fans, 2,142 $\frac{1}{2}$ -chests tea, 2,848 rolls matting and 7,430 packages firecrackers.

Per steamer *Sikh*, sailed on the 28th Dec. For New York:—500 packages firecrackers, 50 casks ginger, 50 cases cassia buds, 10 cases bristles, and 51 packages merchandise.

The P. & O. steamer *Chusan*, sailed on the 30th December. For Gibraltar:—1 case curios. For Manchester:—25 bales waste silk. For London:—7 packages tea, 7 cases silk piece goods, and 2 cases sundries. For France:—570 bales raw silk, 100 bales waste silk, 17 cases silk piece goods and 1 case tea. For Milan:—10 bales raw silk.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 4th January.—Bengal.—The market has further improved, quotations closing at \$713 $\frac{1}{2}$ for New Patna, \$713 $\frac{1}{2}$ for New Benares, and \$735 for Old Benares.

Malwa.—There has been no change in rates, latest figures being as under:—

New

Old (2/8 yrs.) \$760 " " $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " " (1/5 ") \$780 " " 0 to 2 " " Persian.—There has been very little doing in this drug during the past week. Quotations are unchanged, closing at \$500 to \$650 for Oily, and \$540 to \$600 for Paper-wrapped drug, according to quality.

Today's stocks are estimated as under:—

| | | |
|-------------------|-------|---------|
| New Patna | 2,130 | chests. |
| New Benares | 270 | " |
| Old Benares | 560 | " |
| Malwa | 100 | " |
| Persian | 680 | " |

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

| DATE. | PATNA. | | BENARES. | | MALWA. | |
|---------|-------------------|------|-------------------|-------------------|--------|---------|
| | New. | Old. | New. | Old. | New. | Old. |
| 1897. | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Dec. 30 | 710 | — | 712 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 732 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 740 | 760 780 |
| Dec. 31 | 713 $\frac{1}{2}$ | — | 712 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 735 | 740 | 760 780 |
| Jan. 1 | 713 $\frac{1}{2}$ | — | 713 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 735 | 740 | 760 780 |
| Jan. 2 | 713 $\frac{1}{2}$ | — | 715 | 735 | 740 | 760 780 |
| Jan. 3 | 713 $\frac{1}{2}$ | — | 715 | 735 | 740 | 760 780 |
| Jan. 4 | 713 $\frac{1}{2}$ | — | 713 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 735 | 740 | 760 780 |

RICE.

HONGKONG, 4th January.—No change to report. Quotations are:—

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Saigon, Ordinary | \$2.25 to 2.30 |
| Round, good quality | 2.57 to 2.62 |
| Long | 2.77 to 2.80 |
| Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 .. | 2.30 to 2.34 |
| Garden, " No. 1 .. | 2.78 to 2.83 |
| White | 3.70 to 3.75 |
| Fine Cargo | 4.00 to 4.05 |

COALS.

HONGKONG, 4th January.—Sales 15,000 tons Japanese at \$9.75 to \$11.00 are reported. Market fairly steady. Quotations are:—

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| Barf | \$18.00 to 19.00 ex ship, nominal. |
| Australian | \$10.00 to 11.00 small and lump. |
| Miki Lump .. | 9.0 to 10.25 nominal. |
| and Small .. | |
| Moji Lump .. | 7.7 to 8.00 ex ship, steady |

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 4th January.—A large sale reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—*Bombay Yarn*.—30 bales No. 8 at \$78, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ bales No. 10 at \$77 to \$97, 620 bales No. 12 at \$79 to \$84, 165 bales No. 16 at \$85 to \$90, 350 bales No. 20 at \$90 to \$103. *Grey Shirtings*.—300 pieces 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Blue Jess No. 2 at \$2.90, 4,000 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 5 Men at \$3.70, 1,500 pieces 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Blue Jess B. at \$2.9 $\frac{1}{2}$. *White Shirtings*.—250 pieces Gold Goose at \$4.3 $\frac{1}{2}$, 250 pieces No. 5 at \$3.80, 1,250 pieces Flower at \$1.90. *T-Cloths*.—60 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican Hunter and Stag C. C. at \$3.05, 600 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican V. V. at \$2.90, 375 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Red Stag at \$2.37 $\frac{1}{2}$. *Turkey Reds*.—500 pieces 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Mandarin at \$1.7 $\frac{1}{2}$.

| COTTON YARN. | per bale |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s. | 7.00 to 100.00 |
| English—Nos. 16 to 24 | 8.00 to 115.00 |
| " 22 to 24 | 110.00 to 115.00 |
| " 28 to 32 | 121.00 to 126.00 |
| " 38 to 42 | 139.00 to 148.00 |

| COTTON PIECE GOODS. | per piece |
|--|--------------|
| Grey Shirtings—6 lbs. | 1.70 to 1.80 |
| 7 lbs. | 2.00 to 2.15 |
| 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. | 2.45 to 3.15 |
| 9 to 10 lbs. | 3.35 to 4.10 |
| White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. | 2.35 to 2.55 |
| 58 to 60 " .. | 2.70 to 3.40 |
| 64 to 66 " .. | 3.50 to 4.35 |
| Fine | 4.30 to 7.10 |
| Book-folds. | 3.75 to 5.80 |
| Victoria Lawns—12 yards .. | 0.65 to 1.50 |
| T-Cloths—6 lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y. | 1.50 to 1.70 |
| 7 lbs. (32 ") .. | 1.85 to 2.10 |
| 6 lbs. (32 ") Mexs. | 1.65 to 1.80 |
| 7 lbs. (32 ") .. | 2.00 to 2.75 |
| 8 to 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. (36 in.) .. | 2.20 to 3.15 |
| Drills, English—40 yds. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 14 lbs. | 3.70 to 5.16 |

FANCY COTTONS.

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Turkey Red Shirtings—1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 7 lbs. | 1.50 to 4.00 |
| Brocades—Dyed | 3.90 to 5.00 |
| | per yard |
| Damasks | 0.12 to 0.16 |
| Chintzes—Assorted | 0.08 to 0.14 |
| Velvets—Black, 22 in. | 0.20 to 0.30 |
| Velveteens—18 in. | 0.16 to 0.18 |

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.45 to 0.90 per dozen

WOOLLE.

| | per yard |
|--|----------------|
| Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. | 0.55 to 1.25 |
| German | 1.15 to 1.50 |
| Habit, Med. and Broad Cloths. | 1.15 to 5.25 |
| | per piece |
| Long Ells—Scarlet | 6.50 to 9.00 |
| Assorted | 6.60 to 2.10 |
| Camlets—Assorted | 12.00 to 32.00 |
| Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted .. | 11.00 to 20.00 |
| Orleans—Plain | 7.00 to 8.50 |

METALS.

| | per picul |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Iron—Nail Rod | 4.20 to — |
| Square, Flat Round Bar .. | 4.25 to — |
| Swedish Bar | 5.50 to — |
| Small Round Rod | 4.70 to — |
| Hoop | 4.75 to — |
| Wire 15/25 | 8.75 to — |
| Old Wire Rope | 1.50 to 3.50 |
| Local, L. B. and Hole Chop .. | 8.25 to — |
| Australian | 8.25 to — |
| Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/28 oz. | 29.00 to — |
| Vivian's, 14/20 oz. | 28.75 to — |
| Elliott's, 14/28 oz. | 28.75 to — |
| Composition Nails .. | — to — |
| Japan Copper, Slats | 29.50 to — |
| Tiles | 29.00 to — |
| Tin | — to — |

| | | |
|--------------|------------------|-------------|
| Tin-Plates | per box. | 5.80 to — |
| Steel & to 3 | per cwt. case | 5.50 to — |
| SUNDRIES | per picul | 126.00 to — |
| Quicksilver | per box | 4.00 to — |
| Window Glass | per 10-gal. case | 1.93 to — |
| Kerosene Oil | | |

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 4th January.—The New Year holidays have curtailed business to some extent, but the market has been fairly active and rates have ruled strong. The Settlements on the 31st ultimo passed off satisfactorily and have left the market firmer, with an inclination to higher rates.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been in demand for small lots and sales have resulted at 176 and 177 per cent. prem. for cash, and at 184 per cent. for March, closing with further small buyers at 176. Nationals have changed hands at quotation.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Cantons have found further buyers at \$155½ cum and at \$150½ ex dividend payable yesterday and more could probably be placed at the rate. Other stocks under this heading have ruled neglected without sales at quotations, but China Traders are enquired for at \$70.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have changed hands in small lots at \$365 and \$367½ and Chinas at \$106½ and \$107, both closing firm at the last rates.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been considerably firmer and in a fair demand; shares have changed hands at \$28½ and \$29, closing steady to strong at the latter rate. Indos have been in request and small sales have been effected at \$31 and \$32. Douglases continue steady with sales and buyers at \$57. China Manilas and China Mutuals without change or business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have ruled firm with sales at \$161 and \$162 cash and at \$165 for March and \$167 for April, market closing strong at \$162. Luzons continue on offer at \$37 without leading to business.

MINING.—Punjoms have found buyers at \$5.85 for Ordinaries and \$1.40 to \$1.50 for Preferences, closing firm at \$5.85. Charbonnages have changed hands at \$110. Balmorals have been on the market at \$1.40 for Ordinaries and \$1.50 for Preferences without finding buyers. Jelebus have been negotiated at \$2. Raubs have improved to \$22½ after fair sales at \$21½, \$22, and \$22½, chiefly to the South; on time shares have been placed at \$24 and \$24½ for March. Oliver's have ruled firm with sales at from \$7½ to \$8½ for Bs. The managers have published a report from the mine dated 3rd December which has given satisfaction to shareholders, also a telegram giving the result of a crushing of 400 tons quartz from the Eureka mine as 200 oz., or ½ oz. to the ton, which is considered satisfactory. Great Easterns remain at \$3 with sales and probable sellers.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have ruled steady with small sales at 222 per cent. prem. and a few small lots are still wanted at that rate. Kowloon Wharves continue out of favour and without sales at quotation. Wanchais are enquired for at \$41½ without finding sellers.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continue on offer at \$74 without business. Kowloon Lands have changed hands at quotation. Hotels have ruled firm with sales at \$51 and \$52 cash and at \$55 for March. West Points and Humphreys Estate continue quiet with only small sales of the latter at \$9½.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands continue firm with sales at \$33½, \$34, and \$34½, and at \$35 for 30th instant, and \$36 for March, whilst new shares have changed hands at equivalent rates both cash and forward. Ropes have found small buyers at \$170, and Watsons at \$12. The Tramway Company's report for 1897 has been published. The total receipts exceeded those of 1896 by \$3,260, and the net profit was \$939 more than 1896. The General Managers recommend a dividend of 7 per cent. (1 per cent. more than last year), writing off \$2,000, and carrying forward \$2,332.65 to new account. The result of the year's working is

a good one, but the chairman at the meeting cautioned shareholders that the closing of Mount Austin Hotel and the extra cost of wire ropes, owing to the low exchange, were likely to affect the future earnings of the Company, against which, however, the opening of the new road to Magazine Gap would in all probability increase the traffic and act as a set-off.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

| COMPANY. | PAID UP. | QUOTATION. |
|-------------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| Banks— | | [\$345, buyers |
| Hongkong & S'hai... | \$125 176 ½ | prem= |
| China & Japan, prf. | £5 | nominal |
| Do. ordinary... | £3 10s. | nominal |
| Do. deferred... | £1 | £5.5s., buyers |
| Natl. Bank of China | | |
| B. Shares | £8 | \$22½ |
| Founders Shares... | £1 | \$22½ |
| Bell's Asbestos E. A... | £1 | \$5 |
| Campbell, Moore & Co. | \$10 | \$8.75, sellers |
| China Sugar | \$100 | \$162, sal. & buyers |
| Cotton Mills— | | |
| Ewo... | Tls. 100 | Tls. 100 |
| Hongkong | \$20 | \$17, sellers |
| International | Tls. 100 | Tls. 110 |
| La u Kung Mow | Tls. 100 | Tls. 101 |
| Soyche | Tls. 500 | Tls. 530 |
| Yahloong | Tls. 100 | Tls. 90 |
| Dairy Farm Co. | \$5 | \$4 |
| Penwick & Co., Geo. | \$25 | \$29, sales & buyers |
| Green Island Cement | \$10 | \$34.25, sales & sel. |
| Do. New Issue | \$24 | \$18½, sales & sellers |
| H. & China Bakery | \$50 | \$33 |
| Hongkong & C. Gas | £10 | \$120 |
| Hongkong Electric | \$10 | \$10, sellers |
| H. H. L. Tramways | \$100 | \$105, ex div. |
| Hongkong Hotel | \$50 | \$52, sales & buyers |
| Hongkong Ice | \$25 | \$113 |
| H. & K. Wharf & G. | \$50 | \$59, sales |
| Hongkong Rope | \$50 | \$170, sales & buyers |
| H. & W. Dock | \$125 | \$222 p. ct. prem= |
| Insurances— | | \$402½, sales & b. |
| Canton | \$50 | \$50½, ex-div sales |
| China Fire | \$20 | \$107, sales |
| China Traders | \$25 | \$30, buyers |
| Hongkong Fire | \$50 | \$36½, sales & b. |
| North-China | £25 | Tls. 118, sellers |
| Straits | \$20 | \$16, sellers |
| Union | \$25 | \$229, sellers |
| Yangtze | \$60 | \$145, buyers |
| Land and Building— | | |
| H. Land Investment | \$50 | \$74, sellers |
| Humphreys Estate | \$10 | \$9.25 |
| Kowloon Land & B. | \$30 | \$19, sales |
| West Point Building | \$40 | \$21½ |
| Luzon Sugar | \$100 | \$35, buyers |
| Mining— | | |
| Charbonnages | Fcs. 500 | \$10, sales |
| Great E. & C. d'ol n | \$ | \$6.10, sales |
| Do. Do. | \$2½ | \$3.10, sal. s |
| Jelebu | \$5 | \$2, sales & sellers |
| New Balmoral | \$1 | \$1.40, sellers |
| Do. Preference | \$1 | \$1.50, sellers |
| Oliver's Mines, A. | \$5 | \$19, sales |
| Do. B. | \$2½ | \$1.10, sellers |
| Punjom | \$5 | \$5.85, sal. & buyers |
| Do. Preference | \$1 | \$1.4, buyers |
| Raubs | 13s. 10d. | \$22½, sales & buyers |
| New Amoy Dock | \$10 | \$18, sellers |
| Steamship Coys.— | | |
| China and Manila | \$50 | \$76, sellers |
| China Mutual Ord. | £5 | £2 15s. buyers |
| Do. Preference | £10 | £7 10s. buyers |
| Douglas S. S. Co. | \$50 | \$57, sales & buyers |
| H. Canton and M. | \$15 | \$29, sales & sellers |
| Indo-China S. N. | £10 | \$52, sales & buyers |
| Tebrau Planting Co. | \$5 | \$5, sellers |
| Do. | \$2 | \$2, sellers |
| United Asbestos | \$2 | \$2, sellers |
| Do. | \$10 | \$10, nominal |
| Wanchai Warehouse Co. | \$37½ | \$41½, buyers |
| Watson & Co., A. S. | \$10 | \$12, sales & sellers |

EXCHANGE.

TUESDAY, 4th January.

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| ON LONDON.— | |
| Telegraphic Transfer | 1/11½ |
| Bank Bills, on demand | 1/11½ |
| Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight | 1/11½ |
| Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight | 1/11½ |
| Credits, at 4 months' sight | 1/11½ |
| Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight | 1/11½ |
| ON PARIS.— | |
| Bank Bills, on demand | 2.46 |
| Credits, at 4 months' sight | 2.50 |
| ON GERMANY.— | |
| On demand | 1.98½ |
| ON NEW YORK.— | |
| Bank Bills, on demand | 47½ |
| Credits, 60 days' sight | 48½ |

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| ON BOMBAY.— | |
| Telegraphic Transfer | 148½ |
| Bank, on demand | 149 |
| ON CALCUTTA.— | |
| Telegraphic Transfer | 148½ |
| Bank, on demand | 149 |
| ON SHANGHAI.— | |
| Bank, at sight | 73½ |
| Private, 30 days' sight | 74½ |
| ON YOKOHAMA.— | |
| On demand | 3½ % pm. |
| ON MANILA.— | |
| On demand | 6 % pm. |
| ON SINGAPORE.— | |
| On demand | ½ % pm. |
| SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate | 10.10 |
| GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael | 53.00 |

VESSELS ON THE PERTH.

| | |
|---|--|
| FOR LONDON.—Myrmidon (str.), Malacca (str.), Orestes (str.), Java (str.), Kaisow (str.), Thames (str.). | |
| FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—New York, Gaelic (str.), City of Rio de Janeiro (str.). | |
| FOR NEW YORK.—Gerard C. Tobey, Benledi (str.), Port Adelaide (str.). | |
| FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of China (str.). | |
| FOR BREMEN.—Darmstadt (str.). | |
| FOR BALTIMORE.—Standard. | |
| FOR PORTLAND.—Pelican (str.). | |
| FOR AUSTRALIA.—Yamashiro Maru (str.). | |
| FOR MARSE L'ES.—Hakata Maru (str.). | |
| FOR VICTORIA.—Columbia (str.). | |

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

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| December— | ARR. TALS. |
| 30, Taiwan, British str., from Canton. | |
| 30, Uranus, Spanish str., from Manila. | |
| 30, Haiphong, French str., from Haiphong. | |
| 30, Yarrowdale, British str., from Amoy. | |
| 30, Taishun, Chinese str., from Canton. | |
| 30, Taiyick, German str., from Saigon. | |
| 30, Glenfalloch, British str., from Singapore. | |
| 30, Menmuir, British str., from Kobe. | |
| 31, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports. | |
| 31, Sullberg, German str., from Haiphong. | |
| 31, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu. | |
| 31, Derawongse, British str., from Bangkok. | |
| 31, Haitan, French str., from Pakhoi. | |
| 31, Santa Cruz, Amr. schr., from Yap. | |
| 31, Standard, Amr. ship, from Amoy. | |
| 31, Dagmar, Norwegian str., from Canton. | |
| 31, Daphne, German str., from Chinkiang. | |
| 31, Mathilde, German str., from Hoihow. | |
| January— | |
| 1, Siegfried, German str., from Moji. | |
| 1, Kashing, British str., from Chinkiang. | |
| 1, Frejr, Danish str., from Pakhoi. | |
| 1, Krim, Norwegian str., from Hongay. | |
| 1, Hsinfung, Chinese str., from Shanghai. | |
| 1, Triumph, German str., from Pakhoi. | |
| 1, Pakshan, British str., from Bangkok. | |
| 1, Independent, German str., from Moji. | |
| 1, Kweilin, British str., from Moji. | |
| 1, Diomed, British str., from Liverpool. | |
| 1, Foochow, British str., from Canton. | |
| 1, Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Canton. | |
| 1, Chingping, Chinese str., from Canton. | |
| 1, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong. | |
| 1, Hsinchi, Chinese str., from Canton. | |
| 2, Taksang, British str., from Bangkok. | |
| 2, Senta, German str., from Hamburg. | |
| 2, Sishan, British str., from Saigon. | |
| 2, Apenrade, German str., from Chinkiang. | |
| 2, Hunan, British str., from Canton. | |
| 2, Phra C. C. Klao, Brit. str., from Bangkok. | |
| 2, Chelydra, British str., from Calcutta. | |
| 2, Kiangpak, British str., from Hankow. | |
| 2, Formosa, British str., from Swatow. | |
| 2, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai. | |
| 2, Quarta, German str., from Chefoo. | |
| 2, Tetartos, German str., from Saigon. | |
| 3, Prinz Heinrich, Ger. str., from Shanghai. | |
| 3, Hohenzollern, German str., from Y'hama. | |
| 3, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai. | |
| 3, Glenesk, British str., from New York. | |
| 3, Pingsuey, British str., from Liverpool. | |
| 3, Machew, British str., from Bangkok. | |
| 3, Pronto, German str., from Tounon. | |
| 3, Powerful, British cr., from Portsmouth. | |
| 3, Columbia, British str., from Tacoma. | |
| 3, Else, German str., from Iloilo. | |
| 4, Haitan, British str., from Swatow. | |
| 4, Edgar, British cruiser, from Singapore. | |
| 4, Szechuen, British str., from Canton. | |

- 4, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Canton.
 4, Yarra, French str., from Marseilles.
 4, Kingsing, British str., from Shanghai.
 4, Salazie, French str., from Shanghai.
 4, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 4, Shantung, British str., from Java.

DEPARTURES.

- 30, Contest, British str., for Foochow.
 30, Siam, British str., for Swatow.
 30, Chusan, British str., for Europe.
 30, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 30, Terrier, Norwegian str., for Kobe.
 30, J. Diederichsen, German str., for Hoihow.
 30, Cosmopolit, German str., for Hongay.
 30, Fuping, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 30, Idzumi Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
 30, Lianshing, British str., for Bangkok.
 30, Lyderhorn, Norw. str., for Shanghai.
 30, Riojun Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
 30, Taiwan, British str., for Saigon.
 30, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
 30, Hermes, Norw. str., for Canton.
 31, St. Catherine, Amr. bark, for Baltimore.
 31, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 31, Anping, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 31, Letimbro, Italian str., for Bombay.
 31, Progress, German str., for Kobe.
 31, Rosetta, British str., for Yokohama.
 31, Taiyuan, British str., for Australia.

January—

- 1, Haiphong, French str., for Saigon.
 1, Mogul, British str., for Moji.
 1, Foochow, British str., for Shanghai.
 1, Glenfallogh, British str., for Swatow.
 2, Siegfried, German str., for Canton.
 2, Chusan, German str., for Iloilo.
 2, Changsha, British str., for Yokohama.
 2, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 2, Donar, German str., for Kobe.
 2, Kashing, British str., for Canton.
 3, Hupeh, British str., for Java.
 3, Kachilata Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
 3, Mathilde, German str., for Hoihow.
 3, Taishun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 3, Lucia, British bark, for Nagasaki.
 3, Sullberg, German str., for Hoihow.
 3, Apenrade, German str., for Canton.
 3, Daphne, German str., for Canton.
 3, Hsinfung, Chinese str., for Canton.
 3, Kiangpak, Chinese str., for Canton.
 3, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
 3, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
 4, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 4, Hermes, Norw. str., for Hongay.
 4, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
 4, Arratoon Apear, British str., for Calcutta.
 4, Benledi, British str., for Amoy.
 4, Chingping, Chinese str., for Chefoo.
 4, Frejr, Danish str., for Hoihow.
 4, Glenesk, British str., for Shanghai.
 4, Hailan, French str., for Pakhoi.
 4, Hsinchi, Chinese str., for Seanghai.
 4, Menmuir, British str., from Australia.
 4, Pingsuey, British str., for Shanghai.
 4, Prinz Heinrich, German str., for Europe.
 4, Szechuen, British str., for Hongay.
 4, Yarra, French str., for Shanghai.
 4, Yarrowdale, British str., for New York.
 4, Grafton, British cruiser, for Nagasaki.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

- Per *Thales*, from Taiwanfoo, &c., Messrs. Gibb and Schkrimpshire.
 Per *Haiphong*, from Haiphong, Mr. Bandenf.
 Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Messrs. J. C. Oswald, H. Twyford, R. P. Melcampo, Miss K. Power, Messrs. Ong Ka Tiong and Kot Shung Com.
 Per *Devawongse*, from Ang Hin, &c., Mr. Wheeler and Miss Black.
 Per *Chelydra*, from Calcutta, &c., Miss Baptiste, Mrs. Gröper, and Mr. Vawser and 256 Chinese.
 Per *Taksang*, from Bangkok, Lieut. Lionel Sanders, R.N.
 Per *Formosa*, from Coast Ports, Hon. F. H. May, Messrs. H. Gedge, G. H. Potts, and C. Marahara.
 Per *Prinz Heinrich*, from Shanghai, Mr. Plate and family, Messrs. John Muller and C. Cowan.
 Per *Wingsang*, from Shanghai, Mr. Liu Chau, and 140 Chinese.
 Per *Hohenzollern*, from Yokohama, Mrs. Newton Allen, Miss M. Grath, Messrs. C. Th. Stoepel, W. Coons, Th. M'Grath, H. Hansen,

J. Johnson, I. H. N. Kolassen, O. S. Pedersen, O. M. Nilsen, O. C. Olsen, and J. H. Ber-shensen.

Per *Loongmoon*, from Shanghai, Messrs. Justus, Bennett, Jacobsen, Fredriksen, and Ibrahim and 180 Chinese.

Per *Columbia*, from Tacoma, &c., Messrs. H. J. Williams, Jr., and P. Hinkey.

DEPARTED.

Per *Nanyang*, for Amoy, Mrs. Schmidt and child.

Per *Hailong*, for Amoy, Madame Bianco; for Tamsui, Master G. W. Mackay.

Per *Hongkong*, for Haiphong, Messrs. Moritz, Schanz, William Maistre, and Legarde, Revs. Colomb. Patuel, Dalanie, and Honnoi.

Per *Chusan*, from Hongkong for Singapore, Messrs. Wm. F. Cary, J. A. Delay, F. N. Lepan, Y. G. G. Eschenburg, and Dr. Horsey; for Colombo, Miss M. C. Clark, and Mrs. C. McCreary; for Calcutta, Miss J. D. Eppes; for Ismailia, Dr. Mrs. and Miss L. C. Warner, Messrs. H. N. Van Keuren, Callender, Little, Rudolph Seykora, and J. Tschetiniian, Mrs. L. F. Watson, Mr. O. Simpson, Mrs. James Simpson, Miss E. M. Simpson, Miss B. M. Presby, and Mrs. C. M. Presby; for Brindisi, Mrs. H. L. Bridgman, Mr. C. Vreeland, Dr. E. Jennings, Mr. H. T. Safford, Mrs. A. Thul, Rev. Henry Miller, Baron Rummerkiech, Mr. H. C. W. Blyth, Rev. and Mrs. E. Bartrum; for London, Mr. C. Baillargeon, Mr. Gibb, Mr. and Mrs. Bert E. Werthemer, Mr. and Mrs. L. Hansburg, Mr. E. H. Voegeli, Surgeon Percival M. May, and Mr. A. Inglis; from Yokohama for London, Mrs. Mudie and two daughters; from Kobe for Brindisi, Mr. E. M. Jowitt; for London, Messrs. W. Tyrrell, J. Barnicot, and F. McC. Jowitt; from Nagasaki for London, Miss G. C. Smith; from Shanghai for Singapore, Mr. J. Somerville; for Penang, Mr. W. N. Daw; for Bombay, Mrs. C. Robinson; for Brindisi, Mr. and Mrs. Panoff.

Per *Zafiro*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Harrison, Messrs. Pablo Rumcker, Eugene Shelz, John C. Miller, T. W. Rayner, Anderson, Clark, and Arturolo la Puente.

Per *Idzumi Maru*, for Bombay, Mr. A. Matono.

Per *Rosetta*, from Hongkong for Nagasaki, Messrs. J. Tennenbaum and J. H. Wallace; for Yokohama, Mr. John Roberts; from London for Yokohama, Mrs. and Miss Orr; for Malta, Mr. E. Geohagan.

Per *Taiyuan*, for Cooktown, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Saxby, and Miss Saxby; for Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. Silver.

SHIPPING IN PORT.

HONGKONG.

STEAMERS.

- Apenrade, German str., 611, Ipland, Jan. 2, Jebsen & Co
 Bygdo, Norwegian str., 773, Brekke, Dec. 27, Wieler & Co
 Chelydra, British str., 1,574, Davies, Jan. 2, Jardine, Matheson & Co
 City of Rio de Janeiro, Amr. str., 3,159, Ward, Dec. 28, P. M. S. S. Co
 Columbia, British steamer, 1,719, Gow, Jan. 3, Dodwell, Carlill & Co
 Dagmar, Norw. str., 920, Amundsen, Dec. 22, Harling, Buschmann & Menzell
 Daphne, German str., 1,291, Nissen, Dec. 31, Siemssen & Co
 Devawongse, British str., 1,057, Gurtis, Dec. 31, Yuen Fat Hong
 Diomed, British steamer, 3,005, Bartlett, Jan. 1, Butterfield & Swire
 Else, German steamer, 903, Petersen, Jan. 3, Jebsen & Co
 Empress of China, British str., 3,003, Pybus, Dec. 28, C. P. R. Co
 Esang, British steamer, 1,127, Johns, Dec. 27, Jardine, Matheson & Co
 Fatshan, British str., 1,425, J. Dick, H. C., & M. Steamboat Co., for Canton
 Haitan, British steamer, 1,183, Roach, Jan. 3, Douglas Lapraik & Co
 Hankow, British str., 2,235, C. V. Lloyd, Butterfield & Swire, for Canton
 Hanoi, French steamer, 739, Besancon, Jan. 1, A. R. Marty
 Hermann, German str., 808, Garnitzka, Dec. 21, Melchers & Co
 Heungshan, British steamer, 1,054, J. Smith, H. C., & M. Steamboat Co., for Macao

Hohenzollern, Ger. str., 2,039, Blecker, Jan. 3, Melchers & Co

Hoi-on, British str., 76, H. Kearley, Butterfield & Swire, for West River

Honam, British str., 1,344, S. W. Goggin, H. C., & M. Steamboat Co., for Canton

Hsinfung, Chinese str., 1,036, Warwick, Jan. 1, C. M. S. N. Co

Hunan, British str., 1,158, Frazier, Dec. 25, Butterfield & Swire

Independent, German str., 906, Holtz, Jan. 1, Wieler & Co

Ingraban, German str., 894, Piper, Dec. 29, Wieler & Co

Kansu, British str., 1,153, Sommerville, Dec. 28, Butterfield & Swire

Kashing, British str., 1,158, Hopkins, Jan. 1, Butterfield & Swire

Kiangpak, Chinese str., 779, Berntsen, Jan. 2, Chinese

Kingsing, British str., 1,223, Young, Jan. 4, Jardine, Matheson & Co

Krim, Norwegian str., 1,117, Irgens, Jan. 1, Jardine, Matheson & Co

Kwanglee, Chinese str., 1,505, Lincoln, Jan. 4, C. M. S. N. Co

Kweilin, British steamer, 1,088, Harris, Jan. 1, Butterfield & Swire

Kwonghoi, British str., 419, Rowin, Chinese, for Canton

Kyoto Maru, Jap. str., 1,665, Sobashima, Dec. 24, Dodwell, Carlill & Co

Loongmoon, German str., 1,245, Schulz, Jan. 3, Siemssen & Co

Lyemmoon, Ger. str., 1,238, Seuermann, Dec. 18, Siemssen & Co

Machew, British steamer, 996, Farrell, Jan. 3, Yuen Fat Hong

Olympia, British str., 1,691, Dobson, Dec. 10, Dodwell, Carlill & Co

Oslo, Norwegian str., 778, Pedersen, Dec. 24, Chinese

Pakshan, British str., 1,235, Jenkins, Jan. 1, Butterfield & Swire

Pasig, Chinese steamer, 234, C. Koch, Chinese, for Canton

Phra C. C. Klao, British str., 1,012, Pegot, Jan. 2, Yuen Fat Hong

Powan, British str., 1,842, A. N. Patrick, H. C., & M. Steamboat Co., for Canton

Pronto, German steamer, 720, Meyer, Jan. 3, Siemssen & Co

Propontis, British str., 1,387, Crawford, Dec. 24, Chinese

Quarta, German str., 1,146, Johannsen, Jan. 2, Wieler & Co

Saikong, British str., 259, Shierhorst, Chinese, for Canton

Salazie, French steamer, 2,088, Paul, Jan. 4, Messageries Maritimes

Senta, German steamer, 2,660, Voss, Jan. 2, Siemssen & Co

Shantung, British str., 1,535, Frampton, Jan. 4, Butterfield & Swire

Siegfried, German str., 908, Schuldt, Jan. 1, Harling, Buschmann & Menzell

Sishan, British steamer, 845, Jones, Jan. 2, Bradley & Co

Tai On, British str., 769, Galleouski, Chinese, for Canton

Taiyick, German str., 1,060, Schuldt, Dec. 30, Meyer & Co

Takrang, British steamer, 977, Kent, Jan. 2, Jardine, Matheson & Co

Tetartos, German str., 1,812, Cornelsen, Jan. 2, Siemssen & Co

Tritos, German steamer, 1,300, Dinse, Dec. 23, Chinese

Triumph, German steamer, 675, Reike, Jan. 1, Jebsen & Co

Tungkong, British str., 59, Lo Shing, Kwong Wan S. S. Co., for West River

Uranus, Spanish steamer, 718, Landa, Dec. 30, Brandao & Co

Wingsang, British str., 1,517, Sellar, Jan. 2, Jardine, Matheson & Co

Wingtung, British str., 88, Jones, Butterfield & Swire, for West River

Wosang, British steamer, 1,127, Roope, Dec. 29, Jardine, Matheson & Co

SAILING VESSELS.

Anna Bertha, Ger. bark, 269, Nielsen, Dec. 16, Chinese

Columbus, German ship, 1,370, Stover, Dec. 12, Melchers & Co

Fannie Scholfield, British bark, 1,066, Veitch, Sept. 21, Order

Fred. P. Litchfield, Amr. bark, 990, Hardy, Nov. 29, Order
 Gerard C. Tobay, Amr. ship, 1,390, Shurtly, Nov. 21, Captain
 James Drummond, Amr. ship, 1,587, Skewes, Dec. 2, Order
 Lothair, Italian bark, 793, Ferato, Nov. 22, D. Musso & Co
 New York, Amr. ship, 1,897, Peabody, Nov. 11, Shewan, Tomes & Co
 Sachem, Amr. bark, 1,267, Nickels, Nov. 22, Standard Oil Co
 Santa Cruz, Amr. schr., —, O'Keefe, Dec. 31, Captain
 Selkirk, British ship, 1,646, Crowe, Dec. 19, Order
 Serrano, Amr. bark, 613, Waterhouse, Nov. 24, Chinese
 Standard, Amr. ship, 1,461, Getchell, Dec. 31, Melchers & Co
 Sumatra, British bark, 721, Jones, Dec. 18, Wieler & Co
 Vega, German bark, 385, Pettersen, Oct. 24, Wieler & Co
 West York, British bark, 688, Davis, Oct. 18, Order

SHANGHAI.

In Port on 23th December, 1897.

Glengyle, British str., 2,244, Hill, Dec. 24, Jardine, Matheson & Co
 Haean, Chinese str., 869, Wallace, Dec. 19, C. M. S. N. Co
 Haeshin, Chinese str., 763, Mackinnon, Dec. 20, C. M. S. N. Co
 Hsinfung, Chinese str., 1,061, Warwick, Dec. 20, C. M. S. N. Co
 Hsiping, Chinese str., 2,168, Erhardt, Dec. 19, C. E. & M. Co
 Kwanglee, Chinese str., 1,505, Lincoln, Dec. 2, C. M. S. N. Co
 Omega, British bark, 489, Swenson, Dec. 18, Morris & Co
 Prinz Heinrich, Ger. str., 3,902, Cupers, Dec. 21, Melchers & Co
 Prosper, Norw. str., 789, Thorstensen, Dec. 24, Great Northern Telegraph Co
 Salazie, French steamer, 2,083, Paul, Dec. 16, Messageries Maritimes
 Shengking, Brit. str., 1,234, Anderson, Dec. 20, Butterfield & Swire
 Store Nordiske, Dan. str., 596, Suenson, Nov. 4, G. N. Telegraph Co
 Taisang, British steamer, 1,505, Sawyer, Dec. 13, Jardine, Matheson & Co
 Tancarville, British str., 1,534, Brown, Dec. 23, Meyer, Lemke & Co
 Tenringawa Maru, Jap. str., 410, Frahm, Dec. 14, O. S. Kaisha
 Toonan, Chinese steamer, 938, Mertens, Dec. 22, C. M. S. N. Co
 Valkyrien, British bark, 493, Anderson, Dec. 15, Nils Moller and Sons

NAGASAKI.

In Port on 30th December, 1897.

Bjorg, Norwegian str., 484, Nilsen, Dec. 24, Order
 Chehalis, Amr. bark, 642, Simonsen, Dec. 10, Browne & Co
 Midas, British bark, 1,362, Messenger, Dec. 22, Browne & Co
 Novik, Russian str., 194, Erickson, Dec. 22, Holme, Ringer & Co
 Osaka, British ship, 517, Hanssen, Dec. 28, Holme, Ringer & Co
 Radnorshire, Brit. str., 1,889, Vyvyan, Dec. 29, Holme, Ringer & Co
 Sakata Maru, Jap. str., 1,369, Haswell, Dec. 18, Nippon Yusen Kaisha
 Totomi Maru, Jap. str., 1,947, Tate, Dec. 29, Nippon Yusen Kaisha

KOBÉ.

In Port on 28th December, 1897.

Burdon, British str., 1,962, Wilson, Dec. 19, C. Illes & Co
 Chi-yuen, Chinese str., 1,211, Jameson, Dec. 23, Chinese
 Della, German str., 3,290, Christiansen, Dec. 21, Simon, Evers & Co
 D. H. Watjen, German ship, 2,079, Wicke, Dec. 4, R. Issacs & Bro.
 Genkai Maru, Jap. str., 844, Kohori, Dec. 11, Nippon Yusen Kaisha
 John Currier, Amr. ship, 1,847, Lawrence, Oct. 24, Standard Oil Co
 Jupiter, Danish ship, 1,590, Funder, Nov. 27, Sale & Co

Miike Maru, Japanese str., 2,082, Going, Oct. 20, Nippon Yusen Kaisha
 Owari Maru, Japanese str., 656, Kato, Dec. 23, Nippon Yusen Kaisha
 Peter Iredale, British bark, 1,994, Lawrence, Dec. 15, M. Raspe & Co
 Puritan, British bark, 2,283, Amesbury, Dec. 22, Standard Oil Co
 Ross-shire, British bark, 2,148, Baxter, Dec. 20, Standard Oil Co
 Tainan, Japanese str., 9,503, Wale, Dec. 19, Mitsui Bussan Kaisha
 Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Dec. 14, Nippon Yusen Kaisha
 Tolna, American schr., 78, Festetics, July 17, Captain
 Wakanoura Maru, Jap. str., 1,556, Tibbals, Dec. 3, Nippon Yusen Kaisha
 Yorihome Maru, Jap. str., 3,195, Ashita, Dec. 19, Osaka Shosen Kaisha

YOKOHAMA.

In Port on 27th December, 1897.

Amarapoor, Brit. str., 1,619, Cameron, Nov. 23, Captain
 Claverdon, British ship, 2,462, Kelway, Dec. 10, R. Isaacs & Bros.
 Diana, American schooner, 74, Peterson, Oct. 6, Master
 Emilie, German ship, 1,738, Oltmann, Dec. 15, R. Isaacs & Bro.
 Eureka, Amr. ship, 1,996, Darrah, Oct. 28, H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
 Golden Fleece, Amr. schr., 130, Funcke, Nov. 2, J. Kernan
 Kriemhild, German str., 1,629, Biermann, Dec. 21, Simon, Evers & Co
 Saghalien, French str., 2,055, Sellier, Dec. 16, M. M. Co.
 Silver Fleece, Amr. schr., 58, Thompson, Sept. 27, John Kernan.
 Vigilant, Amr. ship, 1,675, Bailey, Oct. 4, Standard Oil Co

BANGKOK.

In Port on 22nd December, 1897.

Amara, British str., from Hongkong
 Buket Tinga, Siam str., from Chantaboon
 Kong Beng, British str., from Hongkong
 Marie Therese, French bark, from —
 P. C. C. Klao, British str., from Hongkong

FOREIGN MEN-OF-WAR ON THE CHINA AND JAPAN STATION.

Admiral Korniloff, Russian protected cruiser, 36 guns, 9,000 h.p., Capt. Molas, at Korea
 Ad. Nachimoff, Russian armoured cruiser, 38 guns, 8,000 h.p., Capt. Nebogatoff, at Korea
 Aleout, Russian gunboat, 8 guns, 1,200 h.p., Capt. Elkisky, at Vladivostock
 Arcona, German cruiser, 18 guns, 2,400 h.p., Capt. Becker, at Kiaochau Bay
 Aspic, French gunboat, 6 guns, 453 h.p., Capt. Journet, at Bangkok
 Bayard, French flagship, 36 guns, 4,500 h.p., Com. Joannet, at Hongkong
 Bengo, Port. gbt., 3 guns, 400 h.p., Lieut.-Com. da Costa Marques, at Macao
 Bobre, Russian gun-vessel, 13 guns, 1,150 h.p., Capt. Boisman, at Chemulpo
 Boston, American cruiser, 8 guns, 4,030 h.p., Capt. F. Wildes, at Korea
 Comete, French gunboat, 6 guns, 450 h.p., Capt. Simon, at Saigon
 Cormoran, German cruiser, 12 guns, 2,700 h.p., Capt. Brinckmann, at Kiaochau Bay
 Descartes, French cruiser, Capt. M. Bernard, at Hongkong
 Dimitri Denskov, Russian armoured cruiser, 34 guns, 7,000 h.p., Com. Witgeft, at Korea
 Eclairer, French cruiser, 8 guns, 2,050 h.p., Captain Textier, at Shanghai
 Forfait, French cruiser, 23 guns, 2,964 h.p., Capt. Delort, at Chemulpo
 Gaidamak, Russian torpedo boat, 18 guns, 3,500 h.p., Capt. Serebrennikoff, at —
 Gremiatschy, Russian armoured cruiser, 12 guns, 2,000 h.p., Capt. Bubnoff, at Vladivostock
 Inconstant, French cruiser, 8 guns, 850 h.p., Capt. La Seyne, at Chemulpo
 Irene, German cruiser, 22 guns, 8,000 h.p., Capt. Du Bois, at Kiaochau
 Kaiser, German flagship, 26 guns, 7,803 h.p., Capt. Zeye, at Kiaochau Bay
 Kaiserin Augusta, German cruiser, 20 guns, 14,000 h.p., Capt. Koellner, at Kiaochau
 Koningin Wilhelmina, Netherlands cruiser, Capt. Diercks, at Shanghai

Korevets, Russian cruiser, 9 guns, 2,150 h.p., Capt. Chaykowsky, at Nagasaki
 Kreysser, Russian cruiser, 18 guns, 1,800 h.p., Com. Tsivinsky, at Nagasaki
 Lion, French gunboat, 6 guns, 600 h.p., Capt. Papaix, at Saigon
 Mandjour, Russian cruiser, 14 guns, 1,400 h.p., Capt. Kachaloff, at Vladivostock
 Moere, German gunboat, Captain Merten, at Hongkong
 Monocacy, Amr. cruiser, 6 guns, 850 h.p., Com. O. H. Farenholt, at Shanghai
 Navezdnik, Russian cruiser, 14 guns, 1,800 h.p., Capt. Zarine, at Vladivostock
 Olympia, American flagship, 14 guns, 17,313 h.p., Capt. Gridley, at Nagasaki
 Otavany, Russian armoured cruiser, 12 guns, 2,500 h.p., Com. Coprianoff, at Korea
 Pamiat Azova, Russian armoured cr., 36 guns, 8,000 h.p., Capt. Virenius, at Nagasaki
 Panther, Austrian cruiser, 12 guns, 3,509 h.p., Capt. Kloppel, at Saigon
 Petrel, Amr. gunboat, 6 guns, — h.p., Lieut.-Com. Wood, at Canton
 Pluvier, French gunboat, 4 guns, 500 h.p., Com. Vedel, at Bangkok
 Prinzess Wilhelm, German cruiser, 18 guns, 8,000 h.p., Capt. Thiele, at Kiaochau Bay
 Rurik, Russian flagship, 43 guns, 13,500 h.p., Com. Rodionoff, at Nagasaki
 Silatch, Russian gunboat, 4 guns, 1,200 h.p., Capt. Barronoff, at Vladivostock
 Sivoutch, Russian gunboat, 13 guns, 1,200 h.p., Capt. Rodionoff, at Korea
 Triomphante, French armoured cr., 24 guns, 4,200 h.p., Capt. B. de Bretizel, at Saigon
 Vipere, French gunboat, 6 guns, 427 h.p., Capt. Constolle, at Bangkok
 Vostock, Russian torpedo gunboat, 4 guns, 650 h.p., Com. Molchousky, at Vladivostock
 Vsadnik, Russian torpedo-boat, 18 guns, 3,500 h.p., Capt. Rogulia, at Vladivostock
 Yakout, Russian gunboat, 16 guns, 890 h.p., at Vladivostock

RUSSIAN TOREDPO FLOTILLA.
(Sea going.)

Borgo, 3 guns, 1,100 h.p.
 Revel, 3 guns, 780 h.p.
 Sweaborg, 3 guns, 780 h.p.
 (1st and 2nd class.)
 Forel, 1 gun, 220 h.p.
 Jantchicho, 4 guns, 970 h.p.
 Norgen, 4 guns, 2,200 h.p.
 Norvets, 4 guns, 2,200 h.p.
 Podorosnik, 1 gun, 220 h.p.
 Sisik, 1 gun, 220 h.p.
 Skorpion, 1 gun, 220 h.p.
 Stotchena, 4 guns, 970 h.p.
 Sterlaid, 1 gun, 220 h.p.
 Strauss, 1 gun, 220 h.p.
 Sunguri, 4 guns, 1,800 h.p.
 Ussuri, 4 guns, 1,800 h.p.

SPANISH SQUADRON AT THE PHILIPPINES ISLANDS.

Argos, in Commission, 508 tons, 600 h.p., 2 guns, Com. R. Cabezas.
 Castilla, cruiser, 3,260 tons, 2,690 h.p., 22 guns, Com. A. Martin de Oliva.
 Cebu, troopship, 532 tons, 600 h.p., 2 guns, Lieut. A. Barrera.
 Don Antonio de Ulloa, cruiser, 1,160 tons, 1,523 h.p., 13 guns, Com. E. Robiou.
 Don Juan de Austria, cruiser, 1,159 tons, 1,500 h.p., 13 guns, Com. J. de la Concha.
 Elcano, gunboat, 560 tons, 600 h.p., 7 guns, Lieut.-Com. F. Escudero.
 General Alava, troopship, 1,300 tons, 1,000 h.p., 2 guns, Lieut.-Com. R. Rodriguez Trujillo.
 General Lezo, gunboat, 520 tons, 600 h.p., 6 guns, Lieut.-Com. R. Benavente.
 Isla de Luzon, protected cruiser, 1,048 tons, 2,200 h.p., 10 guns, Com. F. Barreto.
 Isla de Cuba, protected cruiser, 1,048 tons, 2,000 h.p., 10 guns, Com. D. Regalado.
 Manila, troopship, 1,900 tons, 750 h.p., 2 guns, Lieut.-Com. J. J. Ozamis.
 Marques del Duero, gunboat, 500 tons, 550 h.p., 5 guns, Lieut.-Com. S. Moreno de Guerra.
 Reina Cristina, cruiser, 3,520 tons, 3,972 h.p., 21 guns, Capt. L. Cadarso.
 Velasco, cruiser, 1,152 tons, 1,600 h.p., 7 guns, Com. F. Rebol.

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